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Kayaker dies in St. Joseph River mishap

Party of four ran into trouble near dam in Niles

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

NILES — A New Year's Day kayaking venture in Niles went horribly wrong Wednesday, leaving one of four kayakers dead.

Lt. Michael Stanton of the Niles Police Department said the four male kayakers launched upstream from the French Paper Mill Dam on the St. Joseph River. A witness called 911 around 8:30 a.m. when two of the kayakers started having problems. In all, he said three of the kayakers tipped over near the dam, where the current is relatively swift.

When emergency workers arrived, they found that one kayaker had made it to shore on his own while another was clinging to a cable and buoy system stretched across the river near the dam, according to Stanton.

Niles Fire Chief Larry Lamb said his department rescued the man hanging onto the cable system.

"He was maybe 100 feet from going over the dam," Lamb said.

Witnesses said the missing kayaker was last seen hanging onto trees and debris that was caught by the cable system before he went under water, according to Stanton.

The man's name and the names of the other kayakers were not released.

Stanton said emergency workers spent hours looking for the missing kayaker. The search included the use of a drone and help from the Berrien County Sheriff's Office Underwater Dive Team, Clay Fire Territory from Indiana, Niles Township Fire Department and Southwestern Michigan Community Ambulance Service.

He added that emergency workers searched the banks on both sides of the river for almost two miles downstream before bringing in heavy equipment to move the debris where the kayaker was last seen in case he had gotten stuck under water. Once some of the debris was moved, he said the body was dislodged around 12:30 p.m.

Stanton said the man was taken to Lakeland Hospital, Niles, where he was pronounced dead. The other two kayakers who capsized were treated and released. Stanton said it appeared that the kayakers were wearing life jackets.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

Photos provided / Tom Renner

Brian deBest of deBest Inc. in South Haven stands behind several of the huge limestone boulders his company is using for erosion-control projects up and down the Lake Michigan shoreline. The boulders pictured above were used earlier this month to provide further protection for a home on Monroe Boulevard in South Haven.

Epic battle against nature

SH homeowner says they'll do what it takes to protect property

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN — A decade ago, South Haven Township homeowner Mark Odland paid for construction of a large revetment wall to protect his lakefront property and beach from erosion.

It seemed indestructible at the time.

"We used a product called Redi Rock," Odland said. "Huge concrete blocks ... weighing more than a ton each were placed one at a time on a foundation 15 feet below sea level and built up one layer at a time. The wall was built up to a height of between 6-8 feet above the shore, and huge boulders were placed in front of the wall upon completion."

The Odlands loved their lakefront home on 77th Street, with its 175 feet of beach. That is, until this fall when high waves and strong winds, fueled by the near-record water levels on Lake Michigan, eroded the revetment and washed away the Odland's beach.

"Day after day of prevailing northwest to north winds caused the lake to surge and waves began to breach the north side of the wall ... thus causing significant erosion on the neighboring property and erosion behind our wall," Odland said. "With those storms came huge amounts of floating debris including trees, logs, docks, boats, decks, etc., all causing additional damage."

Workers from deBest Inc. use an amphibious dump truck and excavating equipment last week to place large boulders, weighing between 1-5 tons, along the Lake Michigan shoreline in front of the home of Mark Odland in South Haven Township. The erosion control project also includes repairing and increasing the height of the existing revetment wall that was damaged this fall by erosion caused by large waves and strong winds.

The damage caused by high water levels on Lake Michigan is all too familiar to Brian deBest, owner of deBest Inc. in South Haven.

For the past 20 years deBest's landscaping firm has built revetments. But because of the high water the past couple of years, the company has had to come up with more creative ways to complete their erosion-control structures, and in some cases use different materials.

In the case of the Odland home, deBest used large excavating equipment and an amphibious dump truck to unload sand, clay and huge boulders – referred to as armor stone – that will comprise the outer portion of the current revetment. The boulders will line the entire length of the existing wall, which will then be raised in height to prevent waves from breaching the top of it.

The limestone boulders, each weighing from 1 to 5 tons, came from a mine in Wisconsin and were shipped by barge this fall for deBest's erosion control projects.

"The boulders seem to work much better than other materials taking the energy out from the wave action," deBest said.

DeBest is using the massive boulders for other erosion control projects, as well.

"We currently have 17 projects similar to the Odland's currently in process," deBest said. "We are working from the Fennville area to as far south as New Buffalo."

Such erosion-control measures come with a hefty price tag.

Odland said these latest erosion control measures will cost approximately $150,000. He also had to work with an environmental engineer and obtain permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy to proceed with the project.

See NATURE, page A6

Police officer on-duty deaths are down

But number struck and killed by vehicles is up, report says

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

The number of police officers nationwide who died in the line of duty in 2019 was down 18 percent over the previous year.

But more police officers are being struck and killed by other vehicles while outside their patrol cars, and a disturbing number are being shot execution style, for no apparent reason.

"We've very fortunate in that there's been just one officer killed in Michigan this year in the Detroit area," said Berrien County Undersheriff Chuck Heit. "But the biggest concern for me, when you look across the country, there are more intentional execution-type shootings than I can remember before."

Of the officers killed by firearms this year, six were ambushed for no apparent reason other than to kill a cop, Heit said. He said in some cases, people call in some type of complaint, then shoot the police officer who arrives.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Fund, in its preliminary 2019 Law Enforcement Officers Fatalities Report, said as of Dec. 27, 128 officers had died in the line of duty, down 18 percent from the 157 during the same period last year.

Being shot remained the leading cause of police officer on-duty deaths, although those decreased by 6 percent, from 52 the previous year to 49 in 2019.

The leading circumstances of firearms-related fatalities were officers responding to a domestic-related call, serving a high-risk warrant and investigative activity.

See DEATHS, page A6

Year-end violence highlights danger of worshipping

By GARY FIELDS and DAVID CRARY
Associated Press

NEW YORK — When a machete-wielding attacker walked into a rabbi's home in Monsey, New York, during Hanukkah and a gunman fired on worshippers at a Texas church 14 hours later, the two congregations in different regions of the country joined a growing list of faith communities that have come under attack in the U.S.

It is a group that crosses denominations and geography and has companions around the world. The frequency of attacks has faith leaders and law enforcement grappling with how to protect people when they are at their most vulnerable.

FBI hate crime statistics show that incidents in churches, synagogues, temples and mosques increased 34.8 percent between 2014 and 2018, the last year for which FBI data is available.

"For a person bent on hate crime against a particular religion or race, you go to a place where you know a lot of people in that group will be congregating – and vulnerable," said James Alan Fox, a criminologist at Boston's Northeastern University. "One place you can go to find people of a certain religion is where they worship." Most congregations, he said, do not have security.

See WORSHIP, page A6

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Pete Buttigieg raises $24.7 million during the 4th quarter

By ALEXANDRA JAFFE
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Pete Buttigieg's campaign says he raised more than $24.7 million in the last three months and now has a campaign staff of 500 people nationwide, a show of financial and organizational strength heading into the presidential primaries.

In a memo from campaign manager Mike Schmuhl, Buttigieg's campaign said on Wednesday it had received more than 2 million contributions from over 733,000 people and had raised $76 million since he launched his bid for president. It's a notable feat for the soon-to-be former mayor of South Bend, Indiana – Buttigieg was due to give up the position Wednesday when his successor is sworn in.

Buttigieg has come under fire for holding big-dollar fundraisers with wealthy donors that, until recently, he kept private. But in the fundraising announcement, Buttigieg's campaign touted that its average contribution was about $38. And the big-dollar fundraisers have paid off – Buttigieg's 2019 fourth-quarter haul is far beyond the $19.2 million he raised during the third quarter of the year.

Schmuhl also touted the fact that the campaign has opened 65 field offices across the four early primary states, including 35 in Iowa, the first state where Democrats make their primary preference known, next month. Buttigieg has been polling among the top three candidates in Iowa, though he still polls in the middle of the pack nationwide and faces lingering questions about his ability to broaden his support beyond white voters.

White nationalist who ran for Senate arrested in Fla.

MELBOURNE, Fla. (AP) — A white nationalist who ran for the U.S. Senate in Florida and was a featured speaker during the 2017 "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, was arrested on charges of kidnapping and domestic violence.

Augustus Sol Invictus, 36, was arrested Monday at a Florida mall by Brevard County Sheriff's deputies on a warrant issued out of South Carolina, the Miami Herald reported. Jail records described him as an "out of state fugitive."

The Herald noted that news of the arrest was first reported on Twitter by the journalist Nick Martin, who focuses on covering "hate and extremism" in the U.S.

LOTTERIES

Wednesday drawings

Michigan
Classic Lotto 47
11-18-19-21-26-45
Poker Lotto
QD-AD-4D-5D-6D
Midday Daily 3
5-0-3
Midday Daily 4
0-9-7-7
Daily 3
6-7-4
Daily 4
7-6-7-3
Fantasy 5
01-04-19-29-32
Keno
01-05-06-11-15-20-24-25-30-33-34-35-42-43-44-48-52-54-55-58-76-77
Mega Millions jackpot
$60 million

Powerball jackpot
$220 million

Tuesday drawings

Michigan
Mega Millions
30-44-49-53-56, Mega Ball: 11, Megaplier: 3

Indiana
Cash 5
13-22-31-33-41
Cash4Life
10-22-26-28-39, Cash Ball: 2
Quick Draw Midday
12-18-19-21-23-24-30-35-37-43-46-47-48-60-61-62-64-69-71-80, BE: 35
Daily Three-Midday
1-1-8, SB: 5
Daily Three-Evening
7-7-4, SB: 4

Daily Four-Midday
6-9-4-3, SB: 5
Daily Four-Evening
2-1-5-6, SB: 4
Quick Draw Evening
07-09-12-17-18-22-32-34-35-39-44-49-50-61-64-66-69-70-75-79, BE: 75

Illinois
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
01-05-06-17-18
Pick Three-Midday
9-1-7, Fireball: 5
Pick Three-Evening
9-7-7, Fireball: 2
Pick Four-Midday
8-2-1-1, Fireball: 6
Pick Four-Evening
2-4-3-5, Fireball: 9
Lucky Day Lotto
19-22-31-35-44

– *The Associated Press*

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As more women run for office, child care remains a hurdle

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST and CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — When Kimberly Dudik ran for her fourth term in the Montana House, state officials told her she could not use campaign money to pay for child care for her four young children.

She is now running for attorney general and is trying to visit a big chunk of the sprawling state, spending hours on the road. That means she needs even more help picking up her kids at school and day care when she's away and her husband has a late night at the office.

"It just seems behind the times," Dudik, whose family is living off her husband's income and savings from her work as a lawyer. "When it was a man campaigning, the woman was traditionally the one to stay home and take care of the children. There is not someone home just taking care of the kids."

Experts predict a large number of women will again run for office in 2020 like they did in 2018, and child care remains a hurdle for many of them.

A congressional candidate in New York successfully petitioned the Federal Election Commission in 2018 to allow campaign money to help cover child care costs. But it applies only to those running for federal office.

That leaves women in many states who are running for the Legislature, statewide positions like attorney general or local offices to find another way to pay for child care as they campaign, which often requires night and weekend work.

Only six states have laws specifically allowing campaign money to be used for child care. Five states are considering it. In most states, including Montana, the law is silent on the issue and up to interpretation by agencies or boards. Agencies in at least nine states have allowed child care to be a campaign-related expense, but those decisions are not law and could be reversed.

Rep. Nate McConnell / Rep. Kimberly Dudik via AP

Rep. Kimberly Dudik speaks on the floor of the legislature holding her newborn son Marcutio in Helena, Mont., in March 2017.

Utah is among the states that passed a gender-neutral child care expense law, which went into effect last May. Sponsored by Republican state Rep. Craig Hall, it easily passed the GOP-dominated legislature.

Luz Escamilla was one of the first candidates to use it as she campaigned to become the first Latina mayor of Salt Lake City. Escamilla had to take time off from her full-time banking job to knock on doors and shake hands as she made her case to voters.

Without a paycheck, it was hard to cover the cost of child care for her two youngest daughters. After the law was passed, she used about $1,500 in campaign cash over two months to help pay for it. The extra time she could spend campaigning helped propel her to a spot in the general election, though she lost in November.

"Full-time campaigning during the summer with toddlers, it makes it really difficult," Escamilla said, adding of the law: "It was a great tool in our toolbox."

Lawmakers in Minnesota added child care as an allowable expense in 2018, while Colorado, New York, New Hampshire and California passed laws in 2019.

Before Colorado allowed campaign cash to be used for child care, Amber McReynolds, a former chief elections official in Denver, was contemplating a bid for statewide office in 2017. The costs of child care were a considerable concern as a single mother of two young children.

For that and other reasons, McReynolds decided against running.

"When we look at the statistics in terms of representatives in Congress or statewide office and you don't see single moms in that category, that's why," said McReynolds, who's CEO of a nonprofit. "The circumstances are just that much more difficult when you are in politics."

The policy also can help fathers running for office in families where both parents work.

Jean Sinzdak, associate director of the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, said the record number of women who ran for office in 2018 has helped drive the issue. Still, lawmakers in a number of states have resisted the change.

In Tennessee, the sponsor of a measure to add child care to the list of approved campaign expenses faced a skeptical audience during a subcommittee hearing last spring.

"If they aren't running for office because they can't find child care, how are they going to do the job down here?" asked state Rep. John Crawford, a Republican from Kingsport, Tennessee.

The sponsor, Democratic state Rep. Jason Powell, said he introduced the proposal after people he tried to recruit to run for City Council in Nashville declined because child care needs kept them from campaigning.

"I hate that people in our state feel like they can't run for office because they may or may not be able to use their campaign funds for a child care expense," Powell said.

The measure failed to advance after a split vote of the all-male subcommittee.

In Louisiana, Democratic state House candidate Morgan Lamandre had her request denied by the state ethics board even though it allowed a Republican man to claim campaign-related child care expenses in 2000. Members, who were not on the panel two decades ago and didn't have to follow the previous decision, said they were concerned it could be abused.

After a backlash, the board reversed itself.

While she's used campaign funds to pay for child care a few times, Lamandre said it's not a panacea for smaller races where candidates might have to choose between paying a babysitter or buying basics like lawn signs.

"It's helpful, but it's not a slam-dunk," she said.

Liuba Grechen-Shirley, who unsuccessfully ran for Congress on eastern Long Island and whose FEC petition led to child care expenses being allowed for federal candidates, started a group called Vote Mama to help mothers running for public office and hopes one day the expense is allowed in every state.

States now considering proposals include New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Financial tug-of-war emerges over fire victims' settlement

By DAISY NGUYEN
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A financial tug-of-war is emerging over the $13.5 billion that the nation's largest utility has agreed to pay to victims of recent California wildfires, as government agencies jockey for more than half the money to cover the costs of their response to the catastrophes.

Pacific Gas & Electric declared bankruptcy nearly a year ago as it faced about $36 billion in claims from people who lost family members, homes and businesses in devastating wildfires in 2017 and 2018. The utility acknowledged its power lines ignited some of the fires.

Those claims were settled as part of the $13.5 billion deal that PG& E reached last month with lawyers representing uninsured and underinsured victims.

Meanwhile, insurers had been threatening to try to recover roughly $20 billion in policyholder claims that they believe they will end up paying for losses from those fires. PG&E settled with the insurers for $11 billion.

PG&E must keep working on its broader bankruptcy exit plan to meet the approval of state regulators and a bankruptcy judge by June, as planned.

In the meantime, the $13.5 billion settlement leaves open just how much would be used to compensate victims, their lawyers and federal and state agencies for the money they spent on rescue and recovery operations.

California state agencies said they're owed about $3.3 billion, and federal agencies including FEMA filed claims totaling $4.3 billion. The claims are not related to the $1 billion PG& E agreed in June to pay to 14 local governments to cover damages from wildfires caused by its equipment.

U.S. attorneys and the California attorney general's office raised concerns in separate court filings last month about "potential unequal treatment of claims" and asked U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Dennis Montali to clarify how the money will be divided. They also urged him to ensure that settlement amounts are governed by neutral and experienced trustees.

Lawyers for the fire victims, meanwhile, have asked the judge to reduce the government agencies' claims and argued in one court filing that the California governor's office of emergency services can't recover the costs of carrying out public services such as response to fires.

Many victims dissatisfied with the settlement say giving money to the government agencies leaves little left to people who are still struggling to rebuild their lives.

Michael Burke / AP

Homes destroyed by a wildfire are seen from an aerial view in the Mary Lake Subdivision in Redding, Calif., on Aug 10, 2018.

"There's not enough money in there for everybody and yet there are too many hands in the pot," said Sasha Poe, who lost her house in 2018 when a fire killed 85 people and nearly wiped out the city of Paradise.

Some victims said they're upset that the settlement provides cash and PG& E stock to a trust, stretching out payments over a few years, while insurers will receive their settlement in cash.

"To me, they're taking care of shareholders first and they want us to wait for payments," said Lisa Williams, who also lost her house in Paradise. She says a Facebook group she started for wildfire survivors concerned about the settlement has reached 800 members.

"Nobody expects to be made whole by this settlement ... but they ought to give the victims cash because they need it more immediately," she said. "People are still hurting. I know a woman whose house burned down ... she's living in a trailer with an autistic child and the generator and plumbing went out. She has no heat and water and she's freezing."

Attorneys for the victims said they hope to work out several key issues, including how the trust for the fire victims will be managed and the process for submitting claims, by the end of January.

Militiamen withdraw from U.S. Embassy but Iraq tensions linger

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA and JOSEPH KRAUSS
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iran-backed militiamen withdrew from the U.S. Embassy compound in Baghdad on Wednesday after two days of clashes with American security forces, but U.S.-Iran tensions remain high and could spill over into further violence.

The withdrawal followed calls from the government and senior militia leaders. It ended a two-day crisis marked by the breach of the largest and one of the most heavily fortified U.S. diplomatic missions in the world.

The attack and its volatile aftermath prompted the Pentagon to send hundreds of additional troops to the Middle East an d U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to delay a European and Central Asian trip.

In an orchestrated assault, hundreds of militiamen and their supporters broke into the embassy compound, destroying a reception area, smashing windows and spraying graffiti on walls to protest U.S. airstrikes against an Iran-backed militia over the weekend that killed 25 fighters.

The U.S. blamed the militia for a rocket attack on an Iraqi military base in the northern city of Kirkuk last week that killed a U.S. contractor.

The protesters set up a tent camp overnight and on Wednesday set fire to the reception area and hurled stones at U.S. Marines guarding the compound, who responded with tear gas. There were no injuries on either side and no American staff were evacuated from the compound.

The Popular Mobilization Forces, an umbrella group of state-allied militias – many backed by Iran – called on its supporters to withdraw in response to an appeal by the Iraqi government, saying "your message has been received."

By late afternoon the tents had been taken down and the protesters relocated to the opposite side of the Tigris River, outside the so-called Green Zone housing government offices and foreign embassies. U.S. Apache helicopters circled overhead.

"After achieving the intended aim, we pulled out from this place triumphantly," said Fadhil al-Gezzi, a militia supporter. "We rubbed America's nose in the dirt." Trump has vowed to exact a "big price" for an attack he blamed squarely on Iran.

Kataeb Hezbollah, the Iran-backed militia targeted by the U.S. airstrikes, initially refused to leave but later bowed to demands to disperse. The militia is separate from the Hezbollah militant group in Lebanon, though both are backed by Iran.

"We don't care about these planes that are flying over the heads of the picketers. Neither do we care about the news that America will bring Marines," said Mohammed Mohy, a spokesman for Kataeb Hezbollah. "On the contrary, this shows a psychological defeat and a big mental breakdown that the American administration is suffering from," he said, before withdrawing from the area.

Khalid Mohammed / AP

Pro-Iranian militiamen and their supporters set a fire during a sit-in in front of the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, on Wednesday.

Apes, monkeys among 30 animals killed in German zoo fire

By KIRSTEN GRIESHABER
Associated Press

BERLIN — A fire raced through a zoo in western Germany in the first few minutes of the new year, killing more than 30 animals, including apes, monkeys, bats and birds, authorities said. Police said paper sky lanterns launched nearby to celebrate the arrival of 2020 were probably to blame.

Several witnesses saw cylindrical paper lanterns with little fires inside flying in the night sky shortly after midnight Wednesday near the Krefeld Zoo, Gerd Hoppmann, the city's head of criminal police, told reporters.

"People reported seeing those sky lanterns flying at low altitude near the zoo and then it started burning," Hoppmann said.

He said investigators also found used lanterns on the ground that hadn't burned entirely. They were over 13 inches long, made out of white paper with an opening at the bottom where a small fire would be suspended. The fire heats the air inside, making them fly and shine at night.

Police and firefighters received the first emergency calls at 12:38 a.m.

The zoo near the Dutch border said its entire ape house burned down and more than 30 animals – including five orangutans, two gorillas, a chimpanzee and several monkeys – were killed, as well as fruit bats and birds.

Only two chimpanzees were able to be rescued from the flames by firefighters. They suffered burns but are in stable condition, zoo director Wolfgang Dressen said.

"It's close to a miracle that Bally, a 40-year-old female chimpanzee, and Limbo, a younger male, survived this inferno," Dressen said, adding that many of the zoo's animal handlers were in shock at the devastation.

"We have to seriously work through the mourning process," Dressen said. "This is an unfathomable tragedy."

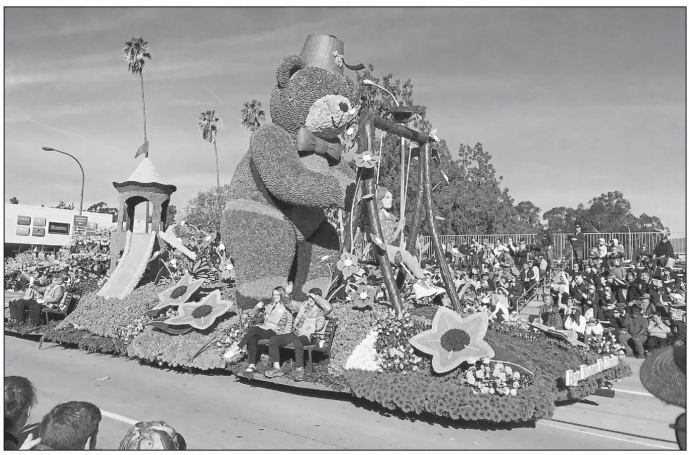
He said many of the dead animals were close to extinction in the wild.

The zoo said the Gorilla Garden, which is near its devastated Ape House, didn't go up in flames and that gorilla Kidogo and six other members of his family are alive.

Germans usually welcome in the new year with fireworks at midnight and people are allowed to buy and launch fireworks. Sky lanterns, however, are both illegal and uncommon in Krefeld and most of Germany. The mini hot-air balloons made of paper have been used in Asia for centuries.

David Young / dpa via AP

Firefighters stand in front of a burnt out animal house at the Krefeld Zoo in Krefeld, Germany, early Wednesday.



Photos by Michael Owen Baker / AP

The Shriners Hospitals for Children float rides the 131st Rose Parade route in Pasadena, Calif., Wednesday. The theme of this year's parade is "The Power of Hope."

Floats, marching bands hit the streets for 131st Rose Parade

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — After a flyover by a B-2 stealth bomber, marching bands and floral floats took to the streets under mostly sunny California skies as the 131st Rose Parade drew hundreds of thousands of spectators on New Year's Day.

Among the fanciful floats was an award-winning entry from the Chinese American Heritage Foundation that marked the 75th anniversary of the U.S. victory in World War II and honored the sacrifices of women and minorities in the military.

A Curtiss P-40 Flying Tiger fighter and Sherman tank on the float were decorated in eucalyptus leaves with accents of black onion seed, white sweet rice and red ilex berries.

After the bomber streaked overhead, a performance by singer Ally Brooke kicked off the colorful proceedings.

The annual extravaganza on Wednesday in Pasadena featured dozens of floats decked out with countless flowers and waving celebrities.

There were just a few clouds and temperatures reached the mid 60s after a chilly night.

It has rained only once on the Rose Parade in the past six decades – that was in 2006 – and it has never been canceled because of weather.

The theme of the 2020 parade is "The Power of Hope." The grand marshals are actresses Rita Moreno and Gina Torres and Olympic gymnast Laurie Hernandez.

A beaming Moreno waved from a rose-adorned antique car with her two adult grandsons.

"Aquatic Aspirations," a float built by students at California Polytechnic State University, featured a submarine, Hope, festooned with red and orange lentils, white mums, silver leaf, and seaweed.

A 2020 Rose Parade float is seen at the start of the route at the 131st Rose Parade in Pasadena, Calif., Wednesday.

Spectators started lining the 5.5-mile route on Tuesday, many of them camping on sidewalks and braving overnight temperatures in the 40s.

Pasadena police said there were no known threats to the parade, and spectator safety would remain the first priority and security would be tight. No major problems were reported.

Lawmakers pledge ERA will pass in Virginia. Then what?

By SARAH RANKIN and DAVID CRARY
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment are so confident Virginia is on the verge of becoming the critical 38th state to ratify the gender equality measure, they are already making plans for how they will celebrate.

But that jubilation could be largely symbolic. Despite broad support for the amendment in the state, the ERA's prospects nationally are substantially more complicated.

The proposed 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution faces a host of likely legal challenges and vehement opposition from conservative activists who depict the ERA as a threat to their stances on abortion and transgender rights.

The passage of time is also a factor. When the measure passed Congress in 1972, lawmakers attached a 1977 ratification deadline to it, then extended it to 1982. While the Democrat-controlled House of Representatives is likely to extend the deadline again, the Republican-controlled Senate may balk, increasing the chances of litigation. Lawsuits also could be waged over an attempt by five states in the 1970s to rescind their initial support for the amendment.

At least one legal challenge is already underway. Alabama, Louisiana and South Dakota filed a lawsuit in federal court in mid-December seeking to prevent the U.S. archivist from accepting a new ratification.

In Virginia, the ERA's future is bright: Democrats who seized control of the state legislature in November say there is unanimous support in both their House and Senate caucuses.

"It will pass," Virginia House Speaker-elect Eileen Filler-Corn said pointedly at a recent news conference attended by cheering advocates, some of whom have been working on the issue for decades.

Virginia supporters have framed ERA ratification as a chance to rebut the state's long history of racist and intolerant policies.

In the past, Virginia "fought against desegregation ... fought against interracial marriage ... fought against women's right to vote," said Jennifer Carroll Foy, chief patron of the House ratification resolution who is also a member of the black caucus and one of the first women admitted to the historically all-male Virginia Military Institute. "And it is only poetic justice that now we stand on the right side of history and finally give women their full constitutional equality."

After a ratification vote, Virginia is expected to submit copies of the state's resolution to the U.S. archivist. State Attorney General Mark Herring said when that happens, he will include legal arguments in support of the ERA.

Herring, who personally supports the proposed amendment, said his office has been preparing for a long time for potential challenges to Virginia's ratification.

"If we have to go to court, I won't hesitate," he said.

Emily Martin, general counsel for the National Women's Law Center – which supports the ERA – is uncertain what lies ahead. But she hopes that a campaign for ERA ratification will kindle a new surge of women's activism comparable to the women's marches of 2016 and the subsequent emergence of the #MeToo movement.

"Mobilization around ensuring women's equality is really important at this moment when the Trump administration is going backward in so many ways that are harmful to women and girls," she said, referring to President Donald Trump.

Some of the ERA-related arguments surfacing now are similar to those that flared in the 1970s. Would ratification mean that women, as well as men, are subject to the military draft? Would it undermine workplace laws intended to protect women?

But some of the liveliest debate over the coming months will likely deal with two hot-button social issues that have evolved significantly since the '70s: abortion access and the rights of transgender people.

While abortion has been legal nationwide since the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade ruling in 1973, many Republican-controlled states have passed tough anti-abortion laws in recent years and are hopeful the high court might repeal or weaken Roe.

Anti-abortion activists worry that the ERA, if ratified, would be used by abortion-rights supporters to quash abortion restrictions on grounds they specifically discriminate against women.

"That's the whole reason ERA has been brought back," said Anne Schlafly Cori of the conservative advocacy group Eagle Forum. "The proponents are concerned about Roe being stripped away by the Supreme Court, so they're trying to shoehorn the ERA into the Constitution."

"Any vote for the ERA is a vote for abortion," said Cori, whose mother, Eagle Forum founder Phyllis Schlafly, spearheaded a highly successful opposition movement to the amendment in the '70s.

The Herald-Palladium Editorial Board: DAVID HOLGATE Publisher | DAVE BROWN Managing Editor | DALE BREWER Local News Editor | KATIE KRAWCZAK Design Editor

The 235 days that shook the world

By GEORGE WILL

They were 235 days that shook the world, rattled China's regime and refuted the most pernicious wishful thinking since the appeasement of dictators collapsed eight decades ago. Nothing more momentous happened in 2019 than Hong Kong's heroic insurrection.

It began with the April 3 introduction by Beijing's Hong Kong satraps of an extradition bill that would have facilitated the sweeping of inconvenient people into the mainland's suppression machinery that is both Kafkaesque and Orwellian. The convulsions culminated in, but did not end with, Nov. 24's cymbal-crash elections in which the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), which had counted on the island city's majority to rebuke the demonstrators, learned the limits of its sterile program of purchasing subservience by promising prosperity.

Elsewhere on China's periphery, Taiwan has a presidential election in less than two weeks. China's President Xi Jinping began 2019 with a Jan. 2 speech identifying Taiwan as the focus of his campaign to make China great again. If – when, probably – on Jan. 11, 2020, Taiwan re-elects President Tsai Ing-wen, the Taiwanese will have joined Hong Kongers in disdaining the "one country, two systems" fudge as a formula for the incremental suffocation of freedom.

Thirty autumns ago, as the Berlin Wall crumbled and the Soviet Union teetered, approximately 1.5 billion people lived under communist regimes. Today, approximately 1.5 billion people still do. The 1989 figure was 29 percent of the world's population compared with 20 percent in 2019, but 89 percent of today's 20 percent are caught in the tightening vise of China's Leninism, whose inviolable tenet is that nothing shall challenge the party's supremacy.

With this year's revelations about the million, or perhaps millions, swept into the gulag archipelago in northwestern China, it is possible to hope that in 2020 we will hear less from American businessmen who are as obtuse as they are cocksure. Just 51 days before The New York Times published more than 400 pages of documents on China's concentration camps, presidential aspirant Michael Bloomberg said the CCP's leaders "listen to the public," and "Xi Jinping is not a dictator."

Not content to just "listen to" the public, the CCP, using ever-more-sophisticated technology, surveils almost everything done by almost everyone. Perhaps 2019 foreshadowed the day when today's Bloombergs will be remembered as Charles Lindbergh and others are remembered because they thought dictators in the 1930s were "the wave of the future."

Would that America's serial grovelers had the gumption of the creators of "South Park." When China, a supposedly great power that was actually discombobulated by this animated TV series, banned it, the creators said: "We welcome the Chinese censors into our homes and into our hearts. ... Xi doesn't look just like Winnie the Pooh at all. ... Long live the Great Communist Party of China! May this autumn's sorghum harvest be bountiful! We good now China?"

"We have to stand with Hong Kong, but I'm also standing with President Xi," said America's president, who also said of Xi: "He's a friend of mine." Xi should reciprocate friendly feelings because Donald Trump's biggest blunder, made three days after his inauguration, was jettisoning the Trans-Pacific Partnership, thereby unraveling a 12-nation fabric of commercial cooperation that excluded China.

Two other Trump chums are Russia's Vladimir Putin and Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The former continued his incremental dismemberment of Europe's geographically largest nation, Ukraine, and the latter took Trump's warning against attacking the Kurds as seriously as Trump meant it.

North Korea's Kim Jong Un does not have to settle for mere friendship – in 2018 Trump said "we fell in love" – but in 2019 the romance seemed unreciprocated. Kim ended a 522-day self-imposed moratorium on ballistic missile tests, but Trump minimized their importance because the missiles could not reach the continental United States – just South Korea, Japan and the 80,000 U.S. forces in both places. However, North Korea has given Trump until right now – the end of this calendar year – to make additional U.S. concessions, beyond the scaling back of joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises, to avoid "shocking punishment." Fresh concessions are North Korea's price for resumption of negotiations that will lead, if the future is like the last 25 years, to other concessions.

However, because nuclear weapons are at issue, you must remember this: In 1945, having witnessed the New Mexico birth of something used on Japan three weeks later, the Manhattan Project's leaders would have been pleasantly surprised had they known that 2019 would be the 73rd year without the use of what they had created. Sometimes what does not happen is itself momentous.

George Will is a columnist for The Washington Post. Kathleen Parker is on vacation.

It was a good decade

Steve Chapman

Ten years ago, America was in an awful way. It had been through a decade of terrorism, war and recession, which combined to create a pervasive sense of anxiety. The worldwide expansion of democracy had shifted into reverse.

At the end of the first decade of the 21st century, the U.S. economy was just beginning to climb out of the worst downturn since the Great Depression. Unemployment was at 10 percent. Americans were being killed in Iraq at the rate of three per week. The war in Afghanistan was going so poorly that President Barack Obama mounted a troop surge. Congress was bitterly divided over his proposed health insurance reform.

Throughout the world, the United States was losing influence. In his 2009 book "The End of the American Century," David S. Mason wrote that "in the past decade, and particularly since September 11, every aspect of this American dominance has begun to wane." It was not only foreigners who were disenchanted with us. Americans were also beset with dread, confusion and outrage.

Today, we still have plenty of serious problems: climate change, the epidemic of opioid overdose deaths, mass shootings, the continuing battle over health insurance. Not to mention Donald Trump and everything associated with his poisonous presidency.

But the end of the decade is a moment to remember that good things have happened since it began.

■ The economy has enjoyed the longest expansion in American history, reducing unemployment to 3.5 percent and pushing up wages – without setting off inflation. The S&P 500 stock index has tripled. Home prices, which plummeted in the recession, have rebounded.

■ The U.S. left Iraq, and even after the return of American troops to fight the Islamic State in 2014, we have only about 5,000 military personnel there now – compared with 136,000 in 2009. The number of Americans fighting in Afghanistan is down from 51,000 in 2009 to 13,000. In 2009, the U.S. military lost 465 men and women in the two wars. This year, the number is less than 40.

■ The military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which banned openly gay members, was lifted by Obama in 2011. Same-sex marriage, which was allowed in only a handful of states and had been forbidden by state constitutional amendment in most, gained nationwide constitutional protection thanks to a 2015 Supreme Court decision.

■ Twenty states have banned discrimination on the basis of gender identity in employment, housing and public accommodations. Both the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts decided to admit members based on their gender identity.

■ Osama bin Laden, mastermind of the 9/11 attacks, was killed by U.S. Navy SEALs in 2011, and Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi died during a U.S. military raid in Syria this year.

■ Obama banned the use of torture on suspected terrorists by the CIA, reversing the Bush administration's policy.

■ The Obama administration granted protection to some 800,000 undocumented foreigners who were brought here as children. Courts have blocked the Trump administration's attempt to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, whose fate is now in the hands of the Supreme Court.

■ A succession of killings of unarmed black men by police helped focus lasting attention on America's persistent racial inequities. This year, some Democratic presidential candidates have endorsed reparations for slavery and Jim Crow. The city of Evanston, Illinois, recently decided to use revenue from cannabis taxes to pay compensation to black residents, who make up 17 percent of the city's population.

Trump has done immeasurable harm on all sorts of matters. But he has also created a powerful backlash that has manifested itself in annual women's marches, renewed awareness of the persistence of racism, and public support for modest gun regulations, action against climate change, immigration reform, the Affordable Care Act – and his impeachment.

It says something good about the American character that for almost the entirety of his time in office, a majority of people have disapproved of this president's performance.

In 2019, it's easy to think our politics will never get better – just as in 2009, it was easy to think the economy would never get better. But when you hit bottom, most roads lead upward.

Steve Chapman is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

Letters

Republican claims about tax cuts law were false

Editor,

In December 2017, Donald Trump and his congressional Republican allies passed the so-called "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act." At the time, they claimed that this bill would not increase the federal deficit, would create millions of new jobs, and would pay for itself through sharply increased economic growth. Two years later, the data are clear – every one of the Republican claims was a lie.

For fiscal year 2018, the U.S. federal deficit increased by 17 percent. For 2019, the increase was 26 percent, which pushed the deficit to $984 billion. The response from Trump and the congressional Republicans who caused this dramatic increase in the federal deficit has been a resounding silence.

Did the massive tax cuts for corporations and wealthy individuals create millions of jobs? No, they did not. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show that during the four years prior to the Republican tax cut law, the economy added an average of 213,000 jobs each month. In the two years since passage of that law, average job creation has declined by around 11,000 per month.

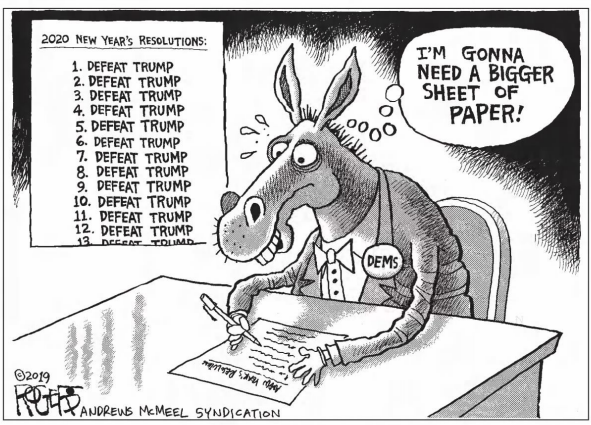
Has there been sharply increased economic growth? No, there has not. The Bureau of Economic Analysis reported that during the four years prior to the tax cut law, real gross domestic product, the most common measure of economic growth, increased at an average annual rate of 2.4 percent. In the two years since the law was passed, annual GDP has averaged around 2.5 percent. In the most recent quarter real economic growth slowed to 2.1 percent.

The primary beneficiaries of the Republican tax cuts have been corporate executives and other wealthy individuals. The theory that tax cuts for the rich "trickle down" to the middle class has once again been debunked. When the rich receive tax cuts, the only consequence is that they pay less taxes. As a result, deficits increase and the rich get richer.

Congressional Republicans, including Congressman Fred Upton, have been fiscally irresponsible. They passed a law that has dramatically increased the federal deficit while primarily benefiting the wealthiest individuals.

Please keep these facts in mind when you cast your vote this coming November.

Larry Feldman
Lakeside



All roads lead to Putin

Editor,

Donald Trump repeatedly demonstrates the truth of Nancy Pelosi's recent statement about him: "All roads lead to Putin."

From the time he announced his candidacy for president, Trump has glorified Putin as a "strong leader" and ignored his dictatorial, aggressive and murderous behavior.

During the presidential campaign Trump welcomed, and took advantage of, Putin's attacks on our democracy.

At the Helsinki press conference in 2018 Trump torpedoed his intelligence team in favor of believing Putin's claim that Russia did not interfere in the 2016 election.

The withholding of allocated funds for Ukraine's defense against Russian aggression into their territory is clearly based on Trump swallowing Putin's propaganda on Ukraine meddling. Most recently, a White House staffer admitted that Trump told him Ukraine was the real culprit in the 2016 election interference because "Putin told him so."

Jay Nordlinger, a senior editor at the conservative National Review, recently wrote: "Putin is a dictator who jails opponents, invades neighbors, interferes in democracies' elections, etc. I don't think an American president should be buddying with him. I wonder if Trump defenders are ever (secretly) embarrassed by this stuff. I hope so."

The unmitigated faith Trump demonstrates toward the false, benign image the Russian president likes to portray is beyond belief! It is hard to imagine what astounding "dirt" Putin must be holding over our President's head to enable the malignant foreign policy actions that have led to Trump's impeachment.

In the 2020 election, a mandatory question for all voters about Trump and the congressional candidates who support him is: "Do you really want to cast your vote for a candidate who supports the false propaganda that Putin is spouting?"

Ed Shaffer
Galien

ANOTHER OPINION

Do Dems want successful people in their party anymore?

Once upon a time, America felt pretty good about stories like Craig and Kathryn Hall's.

Here are people who have worked hard their whole lives, made good investments and have given back to their communities and their country.

We used to find that inspiring and worth emulating. After all, Craig Hall is a guy who started off his billion-dollar development empire on $4,000 in savings from mowing lawns and selling Cutco. His wife had more of a step-up in life, perhaps, but she built on her beginnings, becoming a successful lawyer, executive and ambassador.

So why did the Halls – devoted Democrats – find themselves torn to bits as villains in the last Democratic debate?

The Halls are the owners of the now infamous wine cave in Napa, Calif., and they hosted Democratic candidate Pete Buttigieg there for a fundraiser – a fundraiser, mind you, where many around the table were regular folks who happen to have given the maximum individual donation (a whopping $2,800) to Buttigieg.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, now leading the anti-success wing of the Democratic Party, zeroed in on the fundraiser during the last debate. (Nevermind that Warren has plenty history of her own with fancy fundraisers.)

"We made the decision many years ago that rich people in smoke-filled rooms would not pick the next president of the United States. Billionaires in wine caves should not pick the next president of the United States," she said.

Other candidates, including Andrew Yang and Sen. Bernie Sanders, piled on.

This is a central problem for Democrats – the idea that success and "privilege" (an amorphous charge applied to certain people as convenient) are problems in themselves.

Where does that leave people like Craig and Kathryn Hall, who have employed their success to further causes of greater opportunity for all Americans, including launching a program to help women and minorities start successful businesses?

For Craig Hall, it means feeling like "a pawn." For Kathryn Hall, it means she'd just rather not.

No one pretends the Halls haven't benefited from their political associations. But we have to wonder if Democrats really would be better off jettisoning the successful Americans who support the party. And we have to wonder if you want a party where people who know how to make it in America are treated like enemies.

The American story has always included the chance to strike it big, to make it, to go from mowing lawns to owning vineyards.

If Democrats don't want that story in their tent anymore, we expect the other side will embrace it gladly and consider it a privilege.

– The Dallas Morning News

In a 24/7 food culture, periodic fasting gains followers

By CANDICE CHOI
AP Food & Health Writer

NEW YORK — On low-carb diets, meat and cheese are OK.

On low-fat diets, fruit and oatmeal are fine.

With the latest diet trend, no foods at all are allowed for long stretches of time.

A diet that forbids eating for hours on end might seem doomed in a culture where food is constantly available, but apps and Facebook groups are popping up for people practicing "intermittent fasting."

Bri Wyatt, a 32-year-old Tennessee resident, tried it this summer.

"At first I was like, there's no way," she said.

But after reading more about it, she thought it might not be that hard. She started by skipping breakfast and night-time snacks, and later moved on to a 60-day challenge of fasting every other day.

Melissa Breaux Bankston, a Crossfit instructor in New Orleans, Louisiana, also tried intermittent fasting as a way to curb her snacking. "I wanted to limit the amount of time that I was eating," she said.

Studies on the potential health benefits of intermittent fasting are still limited, including for its effectiveness with weight loss. But heading into the new year, you may be wondering whether it could help you get in better shape.

When, not what

Like other diets, intermittent fasting helps you lose weight by setting boundaries around food. But instead of limiting what you eat, it restricts when you eat.

"It's really another way of fooling your body into eating less calories," said Krista Varady, who studies intermittent fasting at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Proponents say intermittent fasting helps with weight loss in other ways. For instance, they say it forces your body to start burning its own fat for fuel after depleting the energy it normally gets from food. But any effects would depend on the specific approach you take, and Varady said there isn't strong evidence yet that intermittent fasting has any unique effects compared with other diets.

Regardless, people should consult their doctor before trying it. It's not advised for children, people on certain medications and people with a history of eating disorders.

Fasting menu

One of the more popular approaches to intermittent fasting is to limit eating to an 8-hour window and to fast during the day's other 16 hours. This is called time-restricted feeding and isn't as difficult as some other approaches, since the fasting period can include the time you're asleep.

Many people tailor the eating window to be shorter or longer. Some eat just one meal a day, while others fast entire days a couple times a week. On fasting days, people may allow themselves around 600 calories if needed. But Dr. Jason Fung, who has written books on intermittent fasting, says skipping food altogether might actually be easier, since eating small amounts could stimulate appetite.

Whatever the method, people aren't supposed to gorge when they stop fasting. Fung says it's a myth that fasting leaves you famished.

Sumaya Kazi, who posts about her intermittent fasting online and offers coaching services on the diet, says it seems more difficult than it is partly because overeating has become the norm. "Intermittent fasting is more of a mental challenge than a physical challenge," she says.

But people react differently to diets, and fasting may be a lot harder for some than for others, says Dr. Fatima Stanford, a Harvard Medical School obesity specialist.

"There's no one size fits all," she said.

Fasting on trial

Obesity experts have become interested in intermittent fasting, but studies on the diet are still emerging. For now, limited research suggests it may not be any better for weight loss than conventional calorie-cutting over the long term.

"Unfortunately, intermittent fasting gets a little hyped," said Courtney Peterson, who studies the diet at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Still, some fasting approaches may be more effective than others. And Peterson notes the difficulty of designing studies that definitively capture a diet's effects. That's in part because so many other variables could be at play.

For instance, researchers are looking at whether any benefits of intermittent fasting might be tied to when the eating period falls and fluctuations in how well our bodies process food throughout the day.

Some health experts say intermittent fasting might be too difficult for many people. They point to a study of 100 people where those placed in the alternate-day fasting group lost around the same amount of weight as those on conventional calorie-restriction diets over time. But the fasting group had a dropout rate of 38 percent, compared with 29 percent for the conventional diet group.

Obituaries

Otis W. Joseph Jr.

JOSEPH

Otis W. Joseph Jr., 56, of Chicago, formerly of Sodus, departed this life Dec. 25, 2019.

A service celebrating his life will be Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, at Union Memorial A.M.E., Benton Harbor. The visitation begins at 10 a.m., followed by the service at 11 a.m. Those wishing to sign the guest book online may do so at www.robbinsbrothersfh.com.

Otis was born to Julia B. Davis and Otis W. Joseph Sr. in St. Joseph on Jan. 18, 1963. After graduation from Benton Harbor High School in 1981, he attended Michigan State University. While at Benton Harbor High he was a percussionist in the symphony orchestra and the pep band. Otis was one of the best high-stepping drum majors at Benton Harbor High. In 1981, Otis was selected as the Best Male Marcher of the Benton Harbor Marching Band.

One of Otis' many passions of life was his love for travel. His world traveling began in Europe, with visits to the Netherlands, France, Germany, Spain, Turkey, the Canary Islands, Belgium, Italy, or wherever his traveling itch led him. He also served as a 4-H member and leader with his father.

Otis Jr. leaves to cherish his memory his mother, Julia B. Joseph; sisters, Priscilla Joseph, Deborah (Robert) Jackson, Lesia Joseph and LaDonna Joseph; nephews, Jakobi Jackson, Jirani Jackson and Jelani Jackson; godson, Jordan Ford; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, family and friends.

Otis was preceded in death by his father, Otis W. Joseph Sr.; and his grandparents, Maggie B. and Iseah Joseph and Mary Joe and Racine Davis Sr.

Betty Jo (Harp) Imperial

IMPERIAL

Betty Jo (Harp) Imperial, 78, of Bridgman died Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019, at Hanson Hospice Center in Stevensville.

Betty Jo was born Feb. 14, 1941, in Greenview, Ill., to John and Edith (Ackley) Harp. She graduated from Greenview High School.

She was preceded in death by her parents and older brother, Merle.

Betty Jo is survived by her younger brother, Ronald (Joyce) Harp; her two daughters, Denise Imperial (Marvin Puymon) and Dawn Imperial-Rappette (Tony); three grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

Betty Jo enjoyed baking treats and cooking her special dish of pancit for family and friends. Her three grandchildren, Nate Greenhaw, Seth Greenhaw and Annabelle Rappette, were the joys of her life.

Online messages and memories may be shared at www.allredfuneralhome.com.

Joe Ann Davis Allen

ALLEN

Joe Ann Davis Allen, 60, of Benton Harbor went home to be with the Lord on Dec. 25, 2019.

A service celebrating her life will be Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, at the Greater Grace Church, Benton Harbor. The visitation begins at 11 a.m., followed by the service at noon. Those wishing to sign the guest book online may do so at www.robbinsbrothersfh.com.

Joe Ann was born on Sept. 22,1959, to Robert Marshall and Martha Davis Sherman in Blytheville, Ark. She went to school in Blytheville and later moved to Benton Harbor in 1979, where she met the love of her life, Charles Allen. To this union, two daughters were born.

She will always be remembered by her beautiful smile and eyes that lit up any room. She was a generous and patient woman. Joe Ann was a member of Greater Grace Church since the '80s. She was a licensed minister and a Sunday school teacher. Joe Ann was a dedicated and loving mother to both her children and grandchildren.

Joe Ann will be remembered in the hearts of her husband, Charles Allen; daughters, Topeka (James) McClinton and Cymiah Allen; grandsons, Donavan Jr., Devin and Dayvion Fraizer and Charles Poole; sisters, Felicia and Joyce Bodley; brothers, Jeffery Davis, Rodney Bodley and Ernest Bodley; stepdaughters, Tonisha and Latoya Reed; stepfather, Roy Sherman; aunt, Helen Thomas; and a host of aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, in-laws, church family and friends.

Joe Ann was preceded in death by her father, Robert Marshall; mother, Martha Sherman; brothers, Dennis and Tony Bodley; and grandparents, Walter and Fannie Davis.

Eli Burton

BURTON

Eli Burton, 101, of Benton Harbor passed away on Monday, Dec. 23, 2019, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

A celebration of life service will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, at Greater Community Christian Fellowship, 870 Nate Wells Sr. Dr., Benton Harbor, with Pastor Nathaniel Wells III officiating. Friends may visit with the family from 9 a.m. until the time of service on Friday at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to Eli's family in care of Mary Bell. Those wishing to leave a memorial contribution online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Eli was born on May 23, 1918, to Melton and Blannie (Rush) Burton in De Kalb, Miss. He worked as a foundry worker for Bendix for more than 40 years before his retirement. In 1940, Eli married Addie Smith, and she passed in 1986. On May 2, 1987, Eli married Ruby Yancy, and she passed in 2018. Eli was a deacon of his faith for more than 75 years. He had great knowledge of his family's history and was known as the family historian. Eli cared for his community and watched over many children in the Benton Harbor community. He enjoyed going for long walks, especially walking the mall.

Eli was survived by his children, Mary (George) Bell of Benton Harbor and Curtis (LaToya) Burton of St. Louis; stepchildren, Mary Helen (John) James, Walter Hatten, Joyce (Pastor Kerwin Sr.) Hudson, Ruby (Glen) Burton, Vernal Hatten, Gary Hatten and Ivan Hatten; 29 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; siblings, Hal Eugene Burton and Maebell Kilpatrick; and honorable daughter, Brenda Billy Stovall.

Eli was preceded in death by his first wife, Addie Burton; second wife, Ruby Yancy; stepson, Robbert Hatten; and siblings, Lady B., Ida Mae, Eddie, Willie, Luther, Aurelia, James and Graddy.

Martha 'Marti' Wright

WRIGHT

Marti's life began May 4, 1944, in Lawrence. She spent her childhood growing up in Hartford. On June 9, 1961, she married the love of her life, Bruce Wright. Marti worked as an office manager, but her greatest joy came in caring for her friends and family. She was a past member of the Sister Lakes Lioness Club and was very involved with her church, Midway Baptist in Watervliet. She was happiest when she was surrounded by family and friends and loved showing Christ's love through caring for others.

Marti leaves behind a loving family to cherish her memory, including four children, Brian Wright, Lerita (Stephen) Fellows, Esther Wright and Joseph (Shelley) Wright; nine grandchildren, Bradley (Kristine) Wright, Brandon (Alexa) Wright, Elisabeth (Ben) DeJong, Emily Fellows, Justin Schmalfeldt, Joey Schmalfeldt, Chanell Wilcoxson, Rachel Gilley and George Gilley; five great-grandsons; two siblings, Gail Allen and Ralph John Hammond; many nieces and nephews; and very special friends, Clayton and Shirley Wiker.

Marti died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019, at Hanson Hospice Center.

Her husband, Bruce Wright; a granddaughter, Christina Spitzner; parents, Ralph and Elizabeth Hammond; and a brother, Boyd Hammond; preceded Marti in death.

Friends may visit with Marti's family from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, at Midway Baptist Church in Watervliet, where funeral services will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4. Burial will follow in North Shore Memory Gardens. Memorials may be made in Marti's memory to Caring Circle Hospice.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet is assisting Marti's family with arrangements, and you are invited to leave a message of comfort at hutchinsfuneral.com.

Julie L. Ervin

ERVIN

Julie L. Ervin, 61, of Bristol, Ind., died on Monday, Dec. 30, 2019, after becoming ill on Saturday at home.

She was born on Nov. 1, 1958, in Benton Harbor to the late William and Royce (Wright) Krause.

On Nov. 12, 1999, she married Ralph R. Ervin in Goshen, Ind. He survives, along with her son, Richard Weeks of Benton Harbor.

Julie was an employee of Elkhart General Hospital, where she was a secretary in several different departments. She had been employed there since Aug. 3, 1981. She enjoyed traveling and her beloved dog, Mattie. Julie was also a graduate of Benton Harbor High School.

Visitation for Julie will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020, at the Hartzler-Gutermuth-Inman Funeral Home, where services will be at 2 p.m. Pastor Steven Steele will officiate, and burial will be in Olive West Cemetery in Elkhart County.

Because of Julie's love of animals, the family prefers memorial contributions to Pet Refuge, 4626 S. Burnett Dr., South Bend, IN 46614.

To leave the family an online condolence, please visit the funeral home website.

Death notices

Eli Burton, 101, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 23, 2019, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Julie L. Ervin, 61, of Bristol, Ind., formerly of Benton Harbor, died Dec. 30, 2019. Hartzler-Gutermuth-Inman Funeral Home, Elkhart, Ind., (574) 295-1230.

Walburga O. "Walli" Neumeier, 90, of Decatur died Dec. 27, 2019. Newell Chapel, Decatur, 423-2561.

Sandra Kay Rouse, 73, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 31, 2019, in St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

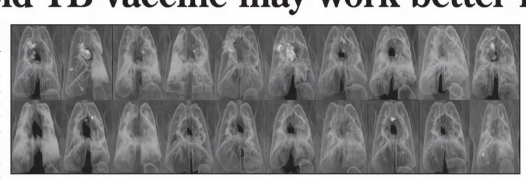
William St. John, 82, of Niles died Dec. 30, 2019, at Riveridge Center, Niles. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Ruth Vorrath, 88, of Buchanan died Dec. 31, 2019, at home. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729.

Martha "Marti" Wright, 75, of Dowagiac died Dec. 31, 2019, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Hutchins Funeral Home, Watervliet, 463-3811.

Century-old TB vaccine may work better if given in a new way

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer


JoAnne Flynn, Alexander White and Pauline Maiello / Pitt; Mario Roederer / NIAID via AP

A collection of lung scans of 20 monkeys who were exposed to tuberculosis after receiving different forms of a TB vaccine. Monkeys in the top row received skin-deep shots, and those in the bottom row were given intravenous injections. The intravenous vaccine protected far better, as shown by TB-caused inflammation seen in red and yellow.

WASHINGTON — Scientists think they've figured out how to make a century-old tuberculosis vaccine far more protective: Simply give the shot a different way.

In a study with monkeys, injecting the vaccine straight into the bloodstream dramatically improved its effectiveness over today's skin-deep shot, researchers reported Wednesday.

"This offers hope," although more safety studies are required before testing the approach in people, said Dr. Robert Seder of the National Institutes of Health, a senior author of the study.

Tuberculosis kills about 1.7 million people a year, mostly in poor countries. The only vaccine, called the BCG vaccine, is used mainly in high-risk areas to protect babies from one form of the disease. But it's far less effective at protecting teens and adults from the main threat, TB in the lungs.

Most vaccines are shots jabbed in the muscle or skin. Seder came up with the idea of IV immunization a few years ago, with experiments showing a malaria vaccine candidate worked better when injected into a vein. He wondered if the TB vaccine would react the same way.

Researchers at NIH teamed with the University of Pittsburgh to study certain monkeys, rhesus macaques, that react to TB infection much like people do. They tested a variety of ways to give the TB vaccine, including a mist that the monkeys inhaled through a mask.

Six months after the vaccinations, the researchers delivered TB bacteria straight into the animals' lungs and watched for infection. Monkeys given today's standard skin shot, even with a higher dose, were only slightly more protected than unvaccinated animals, and the mist wasn't too effective, either.

But in 9 of 10 monkeys, a higher-than-usual vaccine dose injected into a vein worked much better, the researchers reported in the journal Nature. The team found no trace of infection in six of the animals and counted very low levels of TB bacteria in the lungs of three.

Why? The hypothesis is that key immune cells called T cells have to swarm the lungs to kill off TB bacteria and can do so more quickly when the vaccine is carried rapidly around the body via the bloodstream. Sure enough, tests showed more active T cells lingering in the lungs of monkeys vaccinated the new way.

Do you remember?

25 years ago – 1995

The arrival of Isaac Emmanuel Tate at 3:16 a.m. at South Haven Community Hospital marked the delivery of the first new Southwest Michigan resident of 1995. Bob and Camille Tate of South Haven had planned to attend a New Year's Eve church service but scrapped the plan when it became apparent Camille was going into labor.

The healthy boy weighed 9 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 19-1/2 inches long.

35 years ago – 1985

Lt. Elmer Schadler, a 25-year veteran of the St. Joseph Fire Dept., has announced his retirement effective Sunday. Schadler joined the department Jan. 4, 1960, and was promoted to lieutenant March 3, 1973. An open house is scheduled in Schadler's honor Thursday at the fire station, said Capt. Terry McNeil.

Schadler lives in Baroda with his wife, Barbara, and a daughter, Robin, where they breed and raise Arabian show horses. Schadler said they plan to become more involved with horses after his retirement.

50 years ago – 1970

Ted Vernasco, manager of audio-visual communications for Whirlpool, has accepted the chairmanship of the 1970 Boy Scout Fun Fair, according to Dr. Jack Bronfenbrenner, president of the Southwestern Michigan Boy Scout council.

Robert Dearing of Dearing Office Machine Company, Benton Harbor, will serve as vice chairman for ticket sales. Almost 5,000 boys will sell tickets and participate.

Today in history

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Jan. 2, the second day of 2020. There are 364 days left in the year.

Highlight in History:

On Jan. 2, 1960, Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts launched his successful bid for the presidency.

On this date:

In 1959, the Soviet Union launched its space probe Luna 1, the first manmade object to fly past the moon, its apparent intended target.

In 1974, President Richard Nixon signed legislation requiring states to limit highway speeds to 55 miles an hour as a way of conserving gasoline in the face of an OPEC oil embargo. (The 55 mph limit was effectively phased out in 1987; federal speed limits were abolished in 1995.)

In 1981, police in Sheffield, England, arrested Peter Sutcliffe, who confessed to being the "Yorkshire Ripper," the serial killer of 13 women.

In 1983, the original Broadway production of the musical "Annie" closed after a run of 2,377 performances.

In 2018, Sen. Al Franken formally resigned from the Senate a month after the Minnesota Democrat announced his plan to leave Congress amid a series of sexual misconduct allegations.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Mostly Cloudy	Scattered Rain	Scattered Rain	Rain & Snow Possible	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
44°	36°	42° / 33°	36° / 28°	37° / 31°	35° / 29°

Local Outlook

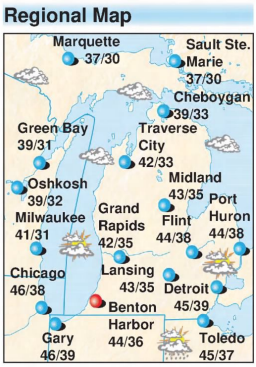
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 44°, humidity of 73%. South wind 11 to 17 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 60% chance of scattered rain, overnight low of 36°. Southwest wind 6 to 11 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 34°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise	8:14 a.m.
Sunset	5:25 p.m.
Moonrise	12:39 p.m.
Moonset	Tomorrow

First	Full	Last	New
1/2	1/10	1/17	1/24

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	41°
Low	23°
Normal High	31°
Normal Low	17°
Record High	54° in 2011
Record Low	-11° in 2018

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal for month	0.06"
Year to date	0.00"
Normal Year to date	0.06"

Air Quality

Yesterday 46
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 .... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

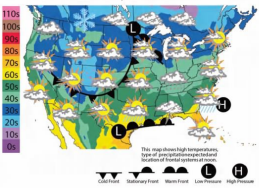
Weather Trivia

Does the sun always give off the same amount of energy?

Answer: The amount varies, but only by a small margin.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Jan. 2, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, SSW wind 14 to 18 kt. Partly sunny. Waves 3 to 4 ft. Water temperature 37 degrees. Tonight, SW wind 5 to 10 kt. Showers likely. Waves 1 to 2 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with highs in the 30s and 40s. South southwest wind 7 to 10 mph. Expect cloudy skies Friday with isolated snow, highs in the 30s. West northwest wind 7 to 11 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with isolated rain, highs in the 40s. South wind 11 to 17 mph. Expect cloudy skies Friday with widespread rain, highs in the 30s and 40s. Southeast wind 2 to 8 mph.

Worship

From page A1

Three of the deadliest attacks on congregation members have occurred since June 2015, when a gunman killed nine people at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, according to a database compiled by The Associated Press, USA TODAY and Northeastern University. The database includes attacks where four or more victims are killed.

However, the database wouldn't include the most recent attacks that have refocused attention on the security vulnerabilities at religious institutions.

The FBI's hate crime highlights list a number of crimes, including a Colorado plot to blow up a synagogue, an Oregon man sentenced to federal prison for targeting a Catholic Church and two guilty pleas in the bombing of an Islamic Center in Minnesota where congregants were worshipping in the mosque.

A five-year compilation of AP reports showed the frequency of attacks countrywide.

Recent stories included the stabbing of an Orthodox Jewish man as he approached the driveway of his synagogue in Monsey in November, as well as a Las Vegas incident where a suspect torched a Buddhist temple, then shot toward at least one monk fleeing the fire.

The data is definitive enough that the FBI invited faith leaders to its Washington, D.C., headquarters last June to discuss how to protect themselves and their congregants from bias-based attacks.

Mark Whitlock Jr., pastor of Reid Temple AME Church in Glenn Dale, Maryland, said his own staff and volunteers have met five times in the last month to discuss safety.

"Our first responsibility is to make sure our congregants have faith in God and second, that they are safe," Whitlock said. "We must not create an environment of fear but we also must not fail to recognize things do happen and evil is present."

Reid has a paid security staff of about 20 who wear uniforms and are armed. There are volunteers as well, made up of former and current federal agents, law enforcement officers and military who also provide security, Whitlock said.

Even with the protection, he is watchful. On Sunday, he was in the pulpit and saw the security force reacting to something. They explained later it was a stranger they wanted to identify.

"When you're looking at thousands of people and you see your security force walking around, your mind begins to wonder," he said.

The new spate of anti-Semitic attacks has added to the sense of urgency that's been felt by Jewish security experts since the 2018 massacre at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue, where 11 people were killed.

"The greatest adversary we truly face is not an external threat, it's a sense of denial," said Michael Masters, national director of the Secure Community Network. It was formed by leading Jewish organizations in 2004 to coordinate a response to security threats.

"The conversation prior to Pittsburgh was whether safety and security was necessary," Masters said. "Now it's a question of how do we effectuate that – there's now a reality that these events can happen anywhere."

Sunday's attack in White Settlement, Texas, in which the gunman was shot dead by a highly trained leader of the church's security team, came barely two years after more than two dozen people were killed at a church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. That remains the deadliest shooting at a house of worship in the U.S. in modern times.

The two Texas attacks have heightened worries among churchgoers in neighboring Oklahoma, said the Rev. Derrek Belase, a former police officer turned pastor who coordinates security training for the more than 480 United Methodist churches in Oklahoma.

"Texas is close to home for us," Belase said. "People see it on the news and think, 'That could be us.'"

Under Oklahoma law, houses of worship are among the places where adults are allowed to carry firearms, whether concealed or openly. Churches may ask worshippers not to bring guns with them, but Belase says that's not a common request.

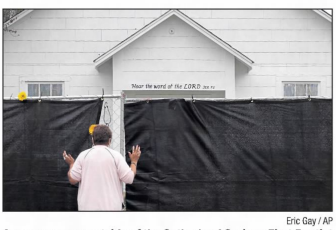
When Belase is advising churches on security, his core recommendations are to work in tandem with local law enforcement, be wary of for-profit security consultants, and be sure that members of any church security team are thoroughly trained.

The security team leader in White Settlement "wasn't just a guy with a gun," Belase said. "He was trained to do that."

Pardeep Singh Kaleka, executive director of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee, said his own Sikh temple has armed guards and an evacuation plan, the result of a 2012 attack in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, that killed six worshippers, including his father. He said the conference members talk regularly about how to prevent the next tragedy. "All faiths want to remain open, Buddhists, Sikhs, Muslims, Jews, Christians, but you also have to be vigilant and institute safety protocols."

Tom Fox / The Dallas Morning News via AP

Church and community members, including Matt Pacholczyk, left, and his wife, Faith Pacholczyk, stand outside West Freeway Church of Christ for a candlelight vigil in White Settlement, Texas, on Dec. 30, 2019. The machete attack on a rabbi's home in Monsey, New York, during Hanukkah and the shooting of worshippers at a Texas church are refocusing attention on how vulnerable worshippers are during religious services. FBI hate crime statistics show there is reason for concern.



Eric Gay / AP

A woman prays outside of the Sutherland Springs First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas on Nov. 12, 2017, a week after a man opened fire inside the church.

Nature

From page A1

"On the north side of our property immediately next to the adjoining neighbor, we lost between 30-40 feet of our property. It (erosion) would have threatened our home had we failed to take action. It is threatening the property next door, where no protection was placed."

Some people have been critical of lakefront property owners these days, saying they never should have purchased homes and beachfront land so close to Lake Michigan, and that the measures some utilize to protect their land from erosion don't work.

"Even though we are the landowners and even though we are paying significant taxes on lots that are underwater, we consider ourselves caretakers of this wonderful lakefront doing what we can to preserve it for the generations that will follow," Odland said.

"The school of thought that suggests we shouldn't do anything to protect our property is not one that we believe in. ... Remember when tires, car bodies, wheels, concrete slabs, tree stumps, 55-gallon drums filled with concrete, engine blocks and other garbage was dumped on the bluffs and used for shoreline erosion protection in the '50s, '60s, '70s, and '80s? How did that work out? Much of it litters our shore today south of South Haven."

Deaths

From page A1

Forty-three officers were killed in traffic-related fatalities, a 12 percent decrease compared to 49 the previous year. The number of officers who died in an automobile crash while on duty went down from 30 in 2018 to 25 in 2019. But there was an increase in the number of deaths in which an officer was struck by another vehicle while out of his or her patrol car, up from 14 in 2018 to 17 in 2019.

Area police have had some close calls.

"Especially on the highway," said Berrien County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Robert Boyce. "I think often times it's distracted drivers. Other times it's weather-related, driving too fast for conditions. It used to be driving drunk or driving tired. Now a lot of it is distractions. People are messing with the radio, eating, or putting on make-up while driving."

In November 2017, an officer in Berrien County survived being hit by a car. While out of his vehicle getting ready to clear the scene of an earlier accident, Chikaming Township Police Officer David Wyman was thrown 42 feet when he was hit by a car on an exit ramp off I-94. He was seriously injured and the man who hit him, James Fanning of Lansing, was charged.

In May of 2016, Baroda-Lake Township Police Chief Shawn Martin was seriously injured when he dove over a median cable on I-94 into a ditch to avoid being hit by a speeding semi-tractor trailer. Martin was out of his patrol vehicle to place stop sticks along I-94 in an attempt to slow the semi driver, who had run several cars off the road, including police cars.

The chief, who dove over the median cable as the truck barrelled toward him, said he thought he was going to die. He suffered a serious shoulder injury that required surgery and months of physical therapy.

The semi driver, Ronald Jiles of California, was charged and convicted of assault with intent to murder Martin.

In 2019, there was a decrease in the number of officers who died from other causes, down from 56 in 2018 to 36 in 2019. Of the 36 who died of other causes, 19 were job-related illnesses or incidents like heart attack or heat stroke. Twelve died as a result of illnesses contracted during the 9/11 terrorist attack rescue and recovery efforts. That is down significantly from the 27 who died from a 9/11 related illness in 2018.

Of the 128 officers who died in the line of duty in 2019, most – 119 – were men. The average age was 43 and the average tour of duty length was 14 years.

Seventeen states and the District of Columbia had no police officer line-of-duty deaths in 2019. Texas had the most, 17, followed by New York, 11. California had nine, followed by Alabama, seven.

Six officers died in Illinois, Georgia, and Tennessee. Florida and New Jersey each lost five officers. The remaining states each lost four or less officers.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter: @HPSwidwa

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Prelim re-set for former driving instructor

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

FLECK

ST. JOSEPH — The preliminary hearing for a former driving instructor and school bus driver accused of sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl has been adjourned while lawyers gather more evidence.

Peter Fleck, 56, of Bridgman was a driving instructor at Mr. G's Driving School in Three Oaks and a part-time bus driver for Lakeshore Public Schools for two years. He was immediately fired from both jobs when the accusations came to light.

Fleck is charged with five counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct. He denies the allegations. His preliminary hearing was to have been Tuesday in Berrien County Trial Court. But Judge Arthur Cotter agreed to adjourn the matter after Fleck's lawyer, Tat Parish, said he does not have all the evidence he needs from the prosecutor to be able to effectively cross-examine a witness.

The judge ordered Berrien Assistant Prosecutor Cortney O'Malley-Septoski to turn over to Parish a copy of a recording of the alleged victim's statements to police. Further, he ordered information from the defendant's and the alleged victim's cell phones to be downloaded by a forensic expert at the Berrien County Sheriff's Office and provided to both lawyers.

Parish hinted there may be information showing evidence of a consensual relationship.

The new date for the preliminary hearing is Feb. 11. Fleck is free on a $25,000 bond pending the hearing.

Lakeshore Schools Superintendent Phil Freeman said earlier that the school district has been informed that Fleck's alleged behavior did not include any interaction with a Lakeshore Public Schools student.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter: @HPSwidwa

New Year's Eve in South Haven

Photos provided / Tom Renner

While people in South Haven waited for the New Year's Eve beach ball drop at midnight on Tuesday, children got a head start at 8 p.m. with their own "early midnight" beach ball drop at the South Haven Center for the Arts New Year's celebration. After the early holiday celebration at the art center, people enjoyed ice skating at the South Haven Ice Rink, DJ music, a laser light show and the release of 1,400 beach balls at midnight in the heart of the city's downtown.

People at the South Haven Center for the Arts New Year's celebration in South Haven wait Tuesday for the release of 1,400 beach balls at midnight. Photo was taken from the upper story of Clementine's Restaurant.

Van Buren County

Commissioners OK raises for many, but not themselves

By ROD SMITH
HP Correspondent

PAW PAW — The Van Buren County Board of Commissioners on Monday granted raises to most of its around 330 employees and elected officials.

The exceptions were members of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) union and commissioners themselves.

The remainder, including 32 employees who are not union members, will be receiving 2 percent yearly raises in 2020, 2021 and 2022. Those unions are the Police Officers Labor Council (POLC) representing command officers, deputies and dispatchers; the Judicial Officers Association, Assistant Prosecutors Association, Prosecutor's Legal Secretaries Association, and the Government Employees Labor Council (GELC), representing corrections officers.

The seven county commissioners did not get raises, since those decisions have to be made for incoming commissioners before a commission election. "We can't raise our pay while we're in office," said board Chairman Richard Godfrey. The remaining elected officials did get raises at the same rate as the other employees.

The AFSCME contract consisted of language changes, plus a memorandum of understanding saying that wages will be discussed later, probably in January. The reason is because the pay scale, as Commissioner Don Hanson described it, is "complicated."

"The trouble was it was piece-mealed continually," Hanson said. It's even possible for an employee to transfer jobs and end up with less money.

That happened not long ago, according to Godfrey. The issue was resolved through the grievance process.

Collective bargaining on the agreements began in October. "It was a lot of work," Godfrey said.

FEMA open house is Jan. 14

Floodplain information available

By HP STAFF

BENTON HARBOR — Representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency will host a Flood Map Information Open House in January for Lake Michigan shoreline communities of Berrien County.

The open house will provide residents with a chance to review a recently completed preliminary Flood Insurance Study and its accompanying preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

The study and the maps provide base flood information, designate areas that are subject to significant flood hazards within the shoreline areas, and offer information that public officials may use when permitting development in the floodplain.

The open house is from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Jan. 14 at the Benton Harbor Public Library, 213 E. Wall St., Benton Harbor.

According to Mary Beth Caruso at the FEMA Region V office, representatives from various local, state and federal agencies will provide the most current information about flood risk, flood insurance, floodplain development regulations and the process for floodplain mapping within Berrien County. The newly-prepared preliminary floodplain maps will be on display. These maps will be used as the basis for flood insurance ratings as well as local flood protection regulations adopted under the National Flood Insurance Program.

FEMA also intends for the maps to be used as tools to help with planning and outreach efforts to quickly respond to and recover from future events. Property owners, Realtors, lenders and insurance agents are encouraged to attend to learn more about coastal flood risk and hazard mitigation within their community.

Lakeland welcomes first baby of 2020

By HP STAFF

NILES — The BirthPlace at Lakeland Hospital Niles welcomed Southwest Michigan's first baby of 2020 at 12:59 a.m. on Wednesday.

Ashley Swisher and Austin Zavoral of Buchanan are the proud new parents of a son, Ryker James Zavoral. Ryker weighed in at 6 pounds, 4 ounces, and measured 18 ¼ inches long. The Lakeland Auxiliary provided the family with a gift basket full of baby items valued at $100.

Lakeland is served by a team of 23 obstetrics and gynecology providers, including physicians, nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives.

In 2019, the Economic Alliance of Michigan (EAM) awarded Lakeland Medical Center in St. Joseph with the Maternity Care Excellence Award for demonstrated excellence and improvement in maternity care and delivery outcomes. Lakeland Hospital Niles was also awarded the 2019 Maternity Care Improvement for demonstrated decreases in cesarean rates, episiotomy,and elective early delivery over a two-year period.

For more information about the BirthPlace, visit www.lakelandhealth.org/birthplace.

Photo provided / Lakeland Hospital Niles

New parents Ashley Swisher and Austin Zavoral of Buchanan are the proud parents of Ryker James Zavoral, the first baby of 2020 in Southwest Michigan.

IN BRIEF

Miss Dowagiac tickets on sale Sunday

DOWAGIAC — Tickets for the 81st annual Miss Dowagiac Scholarship Pageant go on sale to the public on Sunday from 12:30 to 2 p.m. within the community room at the James E. Snow Professional Building, located at Main and Front streets, according to a news release.

Reigning Miss Dowagiac Juliana Stanger will crown the incoming 2020 Miss Dowagiac at the Feb. 8 pageant, which will be held at the Performing Arts Center within the Dowagiac Middle School. Seating is reserved.

Presale tickets are $15. Tickets the night of the pageant are $20. Cash and checks, payable to the Dowagiac Chamber, will be accepted. According to pageant officials, a maximum of 10 tickets can be purchased by each person. However, they may return in line to purchase additional seating.

The pageant is sponsored by the Greater Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce and the Pageant Executive Committee. Tracy Urbanski, of the Allergy, Asthma & Sinus Center in Dowagiac, is director of the 2020 annual event.

Home falls down sandy bluff along Lake Michigan shoreline

WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP (AP) — A small home along the Lake Michigan shoreline in Michigan fell down a sandy bluff in an area plagued by erosion.

Muskegon County officials had been monitoring the condition of the White River Township home which toppled over about 11 p.m. Tuesday, according to WOOD-TV.

Neighbor Bob Lloyd also was checking on the home which he said has been unsafe for a while.

"It was raised off the back of the foundation three inches and I knew it was imminent it was going over," Lloyd told WZZM-TV. "I heard this sound ... and I looked and could just see the house going."

The home's owner was at another property when it fell. She wanted neighbors to pitch in for the cost of a shoreline rock wall to slow erosion but ran out of time, according to WZZM-TV.

White River Township is about 50 miles northwest of Grand Rapids.

Rising Great Lakes levels and storms over Lakes Michigan, Huron and Superior have caused beach erosion, flooding and damage to seawalls and roads.

An October storm battered the Lake Michigan shoreline near Spring Lake, Michigan, and swept away up to 20 feet of dunes in some communities.

Michigan environmental regulators said in October they would expedite permits for homeowners seeking to place rocks or build seawalls to prevent erosion.

The National Park Service has said it will work with Beverly Shores in northwestern Indiana to install sand traps along the Lake Michigan shoreline to combat beach erosion at the Indiana Dunes National Park.

Michigan family reunites with dog that ran after car crash

WOODHAVEN (AP) — A suburban Detroit family has been reunited with their dog, days after the canine ran off following a car crash.

Red, a golden retriever, was ejected from the family's vehicle on Dec. 25 after it hit a slick spot along an exit on Interstate 75 in Auburn Hills and rolled several times. Red then vanished into a wooded area after jumping over a guardrail.

Wade Stevenson of Woodhaven pleaded online for help in finding his family's missing pet after the accident, which did not seriously injure him, his wife, Ruthie Stevenson, or their 4-year-old daughter, Hazel.

After days of uncertainty about Red's fate, Stevenson posted Tuesday on Facebook on that he had been found and reunited with the family, WXYZ-TV reported.

Red was rescued by Michael James, who works with Lending a Helping Paw Rescue. He captured Red in a live trap in Auburn Hills.

"He ran from his own family so it wasn't just going to work with just food or coaxing him," James said.

Stevenson said Red's return came after his family endured what he called "the worst Christmas ever, by far" following the dog's disappearance after the crash.

"He's the fourth part of our family and the bond he shares with our daughter is the reason why my wife and me could not give up," he said.

Michigan officer pushes 2 out of drunken motorist's path

MONROE (AP) — A southeastern Michigan police officer is credited with pushing two people out of the path of a suspected drunken motorist who nearly slammed into them and then fled the scene.

Monroe police said the officer had pulled over a vehicle early Sunday along the city's Telegraph Road when an SUV came barreling toward the back of his police cruiser.

The officer quickly pushed two people over the roadway's guardrail to prevent them from being hit, Monroe Police Capt. Jon Wall told WDIV-TV.

"He heard what sounded like a car slamming on its brakes, which was squealing the tires, which alerted him to look into that particular direction," Wall said.

The SUV went up on a sidewalk before its driver put it in reverse and fled the scene. Police pursued the SUV and soon arrested the motorist.

Walls said the suspect is facing several charges, including fleeing, resisting and obstructing.

Police: Man holed-up in Detroit-area hotel room surrenders

WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP (AP) — A man surrendered to police after spending hours holed-up inside a suburban Detroit hotel room following a reported domestic situation involving a woman.

A caller told 911 dispatchers about 2 a.m. Wednesday that a naked woman was screaming in a hallway at the Hampton Inn in West Bloomfield Township, northwest of Detroit, WXYZ-TV reported.

Police spoke to the woman who they believe is the man's wife. She was taken to a hospital.

The man was taken into custody later Wednesday morning. No threats were made by the man who police earlier had said they believed was armed with a gun.

Proposed potash mine plan in Michigan remains in legal limbo

EVART (AP) — A company's plan to mine a mineral beneath Michigan's Lower Peninsula that's used as an agricultural fertilizer remains in legal limbo nearly two years after its CEO said the region's mineral deposits could be worth $65 billion to the state's economy.

Theodore Pagano, CEO of Michigan Potash Operating LLC, said in March 2018 that mining potassium chloride, commonly known as potash, is a "transformative, generational opportunity" for Osceola County.

However, the mining permits for the company's proposal are being challenged by a grassroots environmental group, Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation, the Detroit Free Press reported.

Michigan Potash wants to begin operating a potash mine on its property in Evart Township. The company intends to mine about 1 million tons of potash annually from that location. Potash reserves in the area could sustain that amount of annual extraction for 150 years, before even further exploring the area for potentially more, Pagano noted.

Ken Ford with the environmental group argues that the company "could not have picked a worse location" to mine.

"It's in the middle of four streams. It's 200 yards from the largest freshwater marsh in Osceola County," he said.

Michigan Potash has proposed using solution mining – wells not unlike typical oil and gas fracking wells. That process would inject brine water thousands of feet underground to dissolve potash, bring it to the surface, and then dry and restore it. The operation would also produce marketable, table-grade salt.

Brine water waste would be disposed of deep underground via disposal wells.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, or EGLE, last year approved permits for eight brine production wells and three disposal wells for the potash mine, over the objections of some local residents and environmental groups. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also authorized permits for the solution mining and disposal wells in 2017.

Pagano disputes environmentalist concerns that the project might foul groundwater or surface water, saying that historic potash mining nearby operated from 1980 to 2013 "without incident to surrounding wetlands for over 30 years."

Citizens groups hope a review panel will overturn the permit approvals for the mine this spring. One group member, Doug Miller, lives next to a marsh that the potash mining could impact.

"By permitting these very expensive wells, (EGLE) has, in essence, permitted the entire project, all without requiring the company to do any environmental testing or studies," Miller said.

Paul Beaty / AP

Jackie Ryan of Forest Park, Ill., becomes the first person in Illinois to purchase recreational marijuana as she purchases marijuana products from employee Brea Mooney left, at Sunnyside dispensary Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, in Chicago.

Illinois sees first legal sales of recreational marijuana

CHICAGO (AP) — The sale of marijuana for recreational purposes became legal Wednesday in Illinois to the delight of pot fans – many who began lining up hours early at dispensaries.

About 500 people were outside Dispensary 33 in Chicago. Renzo Mejia made the first legal purchase in the shop shortly after 6 a.m., the earliest that Illinois' new law allowed such sals.

"To be able to have (recreational marijuana) here is just mind-boggling," Mejia told the Chicago Sun-Times after buying an eighth of an ounce called "Motorbreath."

Illinois already allowed medical marijuana, but it is now the 11th state to allow its use and sale for recreational purposes. The law approved by the Democratic-controlled Legislature and signed by Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker allows people 21 or older to possess of up to 1.06 ounces of cannabis flower and up to 0.17 ounces of cannabis concentrate.

Pamela Althoff, executive director of the Springfield-based Cannabis Business Association of Illinois, told The Associated Press that she spent much of Wednesday morning in Chicago and the city's northwestern suburbs. She said wait times of up to three hours were getting shorter as the day progressed.

"It has been joyous and well-run," she said. "People are extraordinarily courteous and civil."

Police were on-hand at most shops mostly to control traffic.

Althoff cautioned that recreational marijuana may not be consumed in public and added that like all new products, it may be a little expensive.

"We hope that down the line it will become less expensive," she said. "The message from the industry is not promoting or opposing, it's the state of Illinois made it legal and we're here to provide a safe and a quality product for those who wish to consume. We encourage our customers to be responsible."

Mary Yazel-Muska, 65, told the Chicago Tribune that she planned to celebrate her purchase from a dispensary in suburban Mundelein with champagne and edibles at home with her boyfriend.

"I'm a responsible human being," Yazel-Muska said. "I own a home. I worked for a bank as a fraud investigator for 20 years. I rescue dogs. I volunteer. I take care of my 93-year-old mother. It's not like we're all a bunch of hippies."

Cannabis sales could generate $250 million for Illinois by 2022, according to estimates by state officials.

Neighboring Michigan made recreational marijuana legal starting Dec. 1. Missouri voters made medical marijuana legal in 2018, but the state is still working on licensing businesses. The sale and use of weed for any reason still are illegal in Indiana and Wisconsin.

Michigan has 23 retailers licensed for adult-use recreational sales. Its single-transaction limit is the same for residents and non-residents.

In Illinois, nearly three dozen dispensaries have been issued licenses to sell recreational marijuana.

A key part of Illinois' law is the expungement of some low-level marijuana convictions. On Tuesday, Pritzker granted more than 11,000 such pardons.

WWW.
THEHP.COM

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Friday Mar 13, 9-11am
Friday Mar 20, 9-11am

Intro to Win 10 & Hacking 2 Sessions, $20
M/T Jan 13-14, 2-4pm
M/T Feb 10-11, 2-4pm

Apple iPhone - 4 Sessions, $40
M/T/W/TH Mar 2-5, 9-11am

Apple iPad - 1 Session, $20
Thursday Jan 16, 1-3pm
Tuesday Jan 21, 9-11am

Intro to MyChart 1 Session, FREE
Friday, Jan 24, 9-11am
Friday, Feb 14, 9-11am

Facebook – 4 Sessions, $40
M/T/W/TH Feb 24-27, 9-11am

eBay - 2 Sessions, $20
T/W Feb 18-19, 1-3pm

Scholarships available.

United Way of Southwest Michigan
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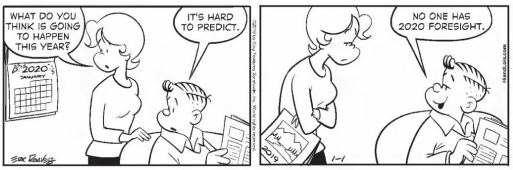
BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

YAAAA...ELMO, WHAT'S GOING ON?
MR. B, THIS IS MY OFFICIAL FIRST WAKE-UP CALL OF 2020!
WELL, I'M AWAKE...WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TELL ME?
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
SWEEEE!

HI & LOIS



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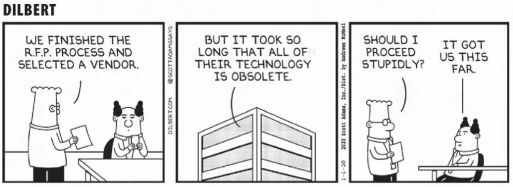
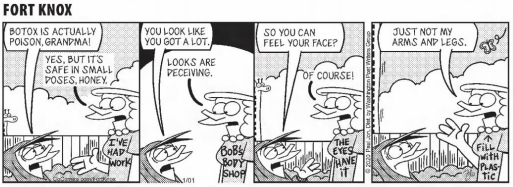
WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT


WE FINISHED THE R.F.P. PROCESS AND SELECTED A VENDOR.
BUT IT TOOK SO LONG THAT ALL OF THEIR TECHNOLOGY IS OBSOLETE.
SHOULD I PROCEED STUPIDLY?
IT GOT US THIS FAR.

GARFIELD

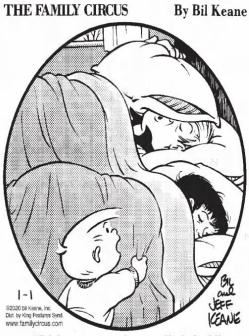
FORT KNOX


BOTOX IS ACTUALLY POISON, GRANDMA!
YES, BUT IT'S SAFE IN SMALL DOSES, HONEY.
I'VE HAD WORK
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU GOT A LOT.
LOOKS ARE DECEIVING.
BOB'S BODY SHOP
SO YOU CAN FEEL YOUR FACE?
OF COURSE!
THE EYES HAVE IT
JUST NOT MY ARMS AND LEGS.
FILL WITH PLASTIC

PICKLES

HERE IT IS, ANOTHER NEW YEAR, PEARL. AT LEAST WE'RE OLDER BUT WISER, EH?
WELL, SOMEONE ONCE SAID, "WISDOM DOESN'T NECESSARILY COME WITH AGE."
"SOMETIMES AGE JUST SHOWS UP ALL BY ITSELF."
AH, HERE IT IS NOW.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

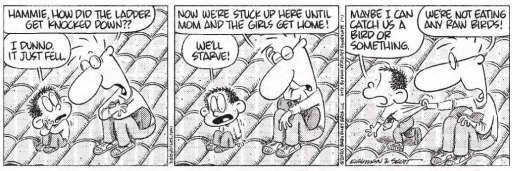


"Did 2020 get here all right?"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"HE ACTUALLY THINKS HE'LL GET AWAY WITH THIS BECAUSE HE YELLED 'HAPPY NEW YEAR'!?"

BABY BLUES


HAMMIE, HOW DID THE LADDER GET KNOCKED DOWN??
I DUNNO. IT JUST FELL.
NOW WE'RE STUCK UP HERE UNTIL MOM AND THE GIRLS GET HOME!
WELL, STARVE!
MAYBE I CAN CATCH US A BIRD OR SOMETHING.
WE'RE NOT EATING ANY RAW BIRDS!

CURTIS

AN UNIDENTIFIED PERSON STEPPED INTO OUR CLASSROOM.
HIS INTENTION, NO DOUBT, WAS TO CAUSE HARM AND CHAOS.
THAT'S WHEN PIXEL ANNE-LEE STOOD, FACING THE STRANGER, HER BACK TO US.
AND SHE TOOK OFF HER MASK.

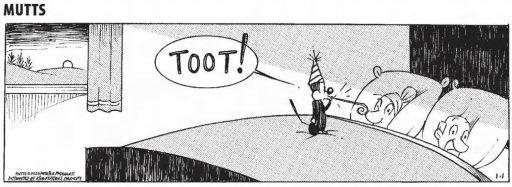
ZITS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

I WAS THINKING OF EARLY RETIREMENT, BUT THE KING FOUND OUT AND MADE ME AN OFFER!
YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE ME TO WORK FOR THE KING?
NO, HE WANTS TO PAY ME TO STAY WHERE I AM!
PRETTY CRAZY, HUH?
CRAZY LIKE A FOX!

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MUTTS



SALLY FORTH

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS
#3: GET ORGANIZED
2020
SO BY "GETTING ORGANIZED" WE MEAN PUTTING THINGS IN SMALL BOXES, PUTTING THOSE BOXES INTO BIGGER BOXES, AND THEN PUTTING THOSE BOXES INTO LARGE BOXES?
IT'S CALLED THE "MATRYOSHKA NESTING DOLL" STRATEGY.
BY THE WAY, I COULDN'T FIND A WORKING MARKER FOR LABELING SO I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S IN WHAT.

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Ben Sanders @HPBenSanders
Maxwell Harden @HPMaxwellHarden
Ben Spencer @HPBenSpencer

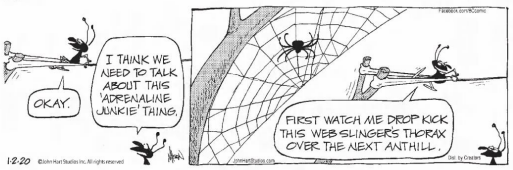
BEETLE BLEY

BLONDIE

ARE YOU TAKING A BREAK FROM SHOVELING SNOW, DEAR?
NOPE, I'M DONE!
THERE'S STILL SOME SNOW ON THE DRIVEWAY, HONEY
I KNOW
OH, I SEE YOU'RE DONE... AREN'T YOU, DEAR?
I'M DONE

HI & LOIS

BC

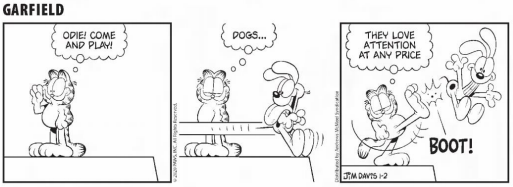

I THINK WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT THIS 'ADRENALINE JUNKIE' THING.
OKAY.
FIRST WATCH ME DROP KICK THIS WEB-SLINGER'S THORAX OVER THE NEXT ANTHILL.

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

OUR INTERNAL PROCESSES ARE SO INEFFICIENT THAT WE CAN'T GET PRODUCTS TO MARKET BEFORE THEY ARE OBSOLETE.
I'LL CREATE A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TASK FORCE TO LOOK INTO IT.
YOU WANT TO USE AN INEFFICIENT SYSTEM TO FIX AN INEFFICIENT SYSTEM?
IT'S CALLED FIGHTING FIRE WITH FIRE.

GARFIELD



FORT KNOX

JANE, YOU SHOULD REALLY TRY BOTOX.
WHY WOULD I DO THAT??
TO GET RID OF ALL THOSE LINES ON YOUR FACE.
THERE'S A SIMPLER WAY.
WHAT'S THAT?
LET YOU WATCH THE BOYS.

PICKLES

ARE YOU MAKING ANY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS THIS YEAR, EARL?
YES, I'M GOING TO KEEP ALL THE BALLS AND FRISBEES THAT LAND IN MY YARD. DARN KIDS NEED TO BE MORE CAREFUL!
YOU GET A LOT OF BALLS AND FRISBEES LANDING IN YOUR YARD?
NOT REALLY. THERE WAS A SHUTTLECOCK THAT CAME OVER THE FENCE A FEW YEARS AGO, SO I JUST WAIT TO BE PREPARED.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

"How do they fit so much water in that little faucet?"

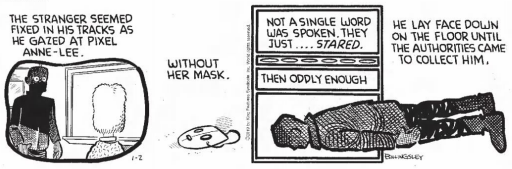
DENNIS THE MENACE

"WHEW! THIS IS A LOT OF WORK... MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST BUILD A SNOW-BOY!"

BABY BLUES

DAD, HOW LONG DO YOU THINK WE'VE BEEN UP HERE?
ABOUT AN HOUR.
WHEN DO YOU THINK MOM WILL BE BACK?
IN ABOUT AN HOUR.
HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR HER TO STOP LAUGHING AT US?
THAT'LL BE A WEEK.

CURTIS


THE STRANGER SEEMED FIXED IN HIS TRACKS AS HE GAZED AT PIXEL ANNE-LEE.
WITHOUT HER MASK.
NOT A SINGLE WORD WAS SPOKEN. THEY JUST.... STARED.
THEN ODDLY ENOUGH
HE LAY FACE DOWN ON THE FLOOR UNTIL THE AUTHORITIES CAME TO COLLECT HIM.

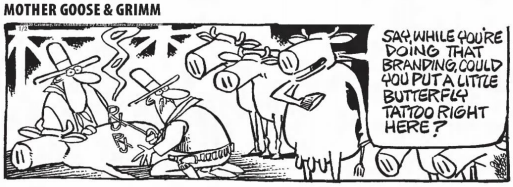
ZITS

YOU WANT US TO LET YOU GO TO A CONCERT IN CHICAGO?
AND THEN SPEND THE NIGHT THERE? WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION?
WOW. WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...
...IT SOUNDS LIKE EVEN MORE FUN!

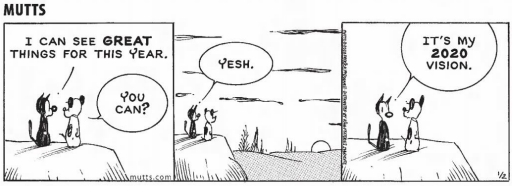
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

HI, OLGA! IT'S A LOVELY NIGHT! WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO FOR A WALK?
SORRY, I'M TOO TIRED! BUT I'M SURE MIA WOULD LOVE TO GO!
YOU HAVE A SISTER?
DON'T FORGET THE POOP BAG!

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



MUTTS



SALLY FORTH

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS
#4: WAKE UP EARLY TO EXERCISE
2020
IT'S STILL DARK OUTSIDE.
WELL, WE'RE NOT GOING TO EXERCISE OUTSIDE.
WE'RE GOING TO DO IT IN HERE, EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T REMEMBER IF THE PHRASE IS "ALEXA, TURN ON THE LAMPS" OR "ALEXA, TURN ON THE LIGHTS," SO LET'S JUST GO BACK TO SLEEP.

hp SPORTS

Ducks nose past Badgers to win Rose Bowl
Page C2

John Raoux / AP

Alabama wide receiver Jerry Jeudy runs after a reception past Michigan linebacker Jordan Glasgow during the first half of the Citrus Bowl on Wednesday.

The Tide is high

Michigan football overwhelmed by Jeudy, Alabama in Citrus Bowl

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

ORLANDO, Fla. — Jerry Jeudy could have sat out Alabama's bowl game and still almost certainly would have been a first-round draft pick.

Alabama 35, Michigan 16

He played instead — and if this was his finale, his stock likely soared.

Mac Jones threw three touchdown passes, Jeudy became the first Alabama player to top 200 receiving yards in a bowl game and the ninth-ranked Crimson Tide topped No. 17 Michigan 35-16 on Wednesday in the Citrus Bowl.

"I've played football all my life," said Jeudy, the junior who was the game's MVP pick. "I couldn't just sit out there and watch my team play. ... I love playing football, so I just came out here and competed with my brothers."

Jones connected with Jeudy for an 85-yard score on Alabama's first snap, DeVonta Smith and Miller Forristall added touchdown grabs in the second half for the Crimson Tide (11-2), which trailed 16-14 at the break. Najee Harris ran for 136 yards and two touchdowns for Alabama.

Jeudy finished with six catches for 204 yards. His previous career-high for yards was 147 set last season against Missouri, and the Alabama bowl record had stood for more than a half-century — Ray Perkins had 178 yards against Nebraska in the 1967 Sugar Bowl.

"Certainly, he used this opportunity to showcase his ability so it probably even enhanced his opportunities at the next level," said Alabama coach Nick Saban, whose team outscored Michigan 21-0 after halftime. "Very, very proud of our team."

Jones — who took over as Alabama's starter when Tua Tagovailoa was lost for the season with an injury in November — completed 16 of 25 passes for 327 yards.

Shea Patterson completed 17 of 37 passes for 233 yards and a touchdown for Michigan (9-4), which dropped its fourth consecutive bowl game. Quinn Nordin kicked three field goals for the Wolverines, including a school-record-tying 57-yarder to end the first half and give Michigan the lead.

"It was a hard-fought game," Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh said. "Congratulations to Alabama. I thought both teams played extremely hard."

The Crimson Tide had two touchdown drives of 90 seconds

See CITRUS, page C3

ANALYSIS

Michigan football's reality unchanged after Citrus Bowl loss

By ORION SANG
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

ORLANDO, Fla. — Everything felt familiar as Michigan football exited the field at Camping World Stadium on Wednesday afternoon, the loser of yet another non-playoff bowl game.

Another muted post-game scene. Another season in which the Wolverines lost their final two games. Another impending off-season with plenty of questions that have no easy answers.

For Jim Harbaugh's program, reality remains unchanged after a 35-16 loss to Alabama in the Citrus Bowl.

The Wolverines are in a stable position. They've won 47 games since 2015. They'll finish the season ranked in the top 25 for the fourth time in the past five seasons.

But Michigan has loftier goals and isn't achieving them right now. And the path to doing so remains unclear, as Harbaugh's fifth season in Ann Arbor concludes.

To be clear, the Wolverines wouldn't have leapt to the top rung of college football had they beaten Alabama, which recorded its ninth consecutive 11-win season. But it would've made a statement, considering the Crimson Tide's legion of future NFL draft picks, and the fact that Michigan has rarely won as an underdog under Harbaugh.

"I think their level of excellence has been at the highest level," Harbaugh said after the game. "I think Coach Saban deserves a great share of that credit, along with the program that they've built. It's at the highest level."

For a while, it looked as if Michigan could match that level in the Citrus Bowl. The Wolverines led at halftime, 16-14, after amassing 285 total yards, including 135 yards rushing. The play-calling from offensive coordinator Josh Gattis was inventive and sprang loose several big plays. The offensive line generated push up front and opened holes for the running backs. And the defense, despite being gashed both on its very first play and at the end of the half, forced three consecutive punts.

Michigan put itself in position to win in the first half, despite settling for three field goals. But, as we've often seen, it didn't sustain that high level of play. The Wolverines ran for just 27 yards in the second half. The big plays went away, and the offense was shut out. The defense gave up 75 yards on four plays to open the third quarter, ceding the lead for good.

Alabama's offense resembles a high-end sports car. The Crimson Tide can put its foot on the gas, seemingly at will. It was just a matter of time before it put together more explosive plays (Jerry Jeudy had six catches for 204 yards and a touchdown) to swing the game in its favor. Which is exactly what happened in the second half.

"Their ability to create the big play was critical in the game

See SANG, page C3

Jones, Gilman forego final years at ND for NFL draft

SOUTH BEND (AP) (AP) — Running back Tony Jones Jr. became the second player for No. 14 Notre Dame to forego his final year of eligibility to enter the NFL draft.

Jones made the announcement Tuesday on Twitter. On Monday, senior safety Alohi Gilman declared for the draft, which is April 23-25.

The announcements followed quarterback Ian Book's declaration Sunday night on social media that he would use his fifth year of eligibility to return in 2020.

The 5-foot-11, 224-pound Jones scored an 84-yard touchdown run early in the second half that gave the Fighting Irish (11-2, No. 15 CFP) breathing room in their 33-9 victory over Iowa State in the Camping World Bowl on Saturday.

The 5-foot-10½, 202-pound Gilman finished his second season as a starter with 74 tackles, one interception, one fumble recovery and three fumbles caused, one that led to Notre Dame's opening touchdown against the Cyclones. Gilman had a year of eligibility left after sitting out the 2017 season following his transfer from Navy, where he started 12 games in 2016 as a freshman.

Former NBA Commissioner Stern dies

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — David Stern had basketball as a passion and law as a profession, one he figured he could return to if a job at the NBA didn't work out.

STERN

He never did.

Instead he went to Europe, Asia and plenty of other places around the world, bringing with him a league that was previously an afterthought in the U.S. and turning it into a global powerhouse.

Stern, who spent 30 years as the NBA's longest-serving commissioner and one of the best in sports history, died Wednesday. He was 77.

"Without David Stern, the NBA would not be what it is today," Hall of Famer Michael Jordan said. "He guided the league through turbulent times and grew the league into an international phenomenon, creating opportunities that few could have imagined before."

See STERN, page C3

A refined Kapalua presents different test to start new year

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Lush green grass, Pacific blue horizon.

That much about the Plantation Course at Kapalua hasn't changed for the 34 winners on the PGA Tour last year who have assembled for the Sentry Tournament of Champions. Fifteen players are competing for the first time and won't notice the $12.5 million refinement project by designers Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw.

Dustin Johnson did.

"It's definitely a little harder," said Johnson, who has been playing every morning as the sun climbs over the horizon and is done with 18 holes before the breakfast buffet has been cleared. "The greens are firmer because they're new. The greens are firm and the fairways are soft. I think it will play more difficult."

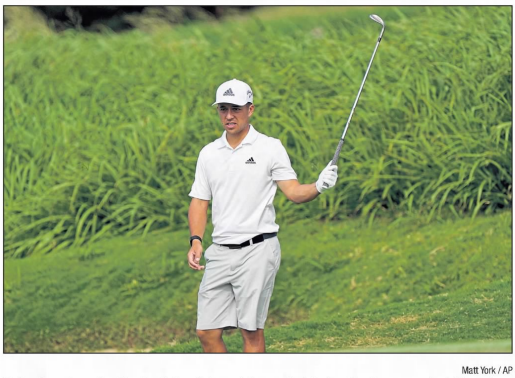
What really got his attention was the third hole, which for 10 years has been a driver and a wedge. With a new tee some 30 yards farther back, and facing a stiff trade win, Johnson blasted driver and reached for a 6-iron.

"I knew it was longer and that I'd have longer in," Johnson said. "I didn't think I'd have that far. It's a difficult green with wedge to get it close. With a 6-iron, it's not that much fun."

This refinement was not all about length.

The Plantation Course had grown old enough that it lost its speed from so much thatch in the grass. The idea was for this course to play fast. That would make it more difficult for

See KAPALUA, page C3



Matt York / AP

Defending champion Xander Schauffele watches a shot during the Tournament of Champions pro-am golf event Wednesday at Kapalua Plantation Course in Kapalua, Hawaii.

In brief

Ex-Yankee great Larsen dies at 90

NEW YORK (AP) — Don Larsen, the journeyman pitcher who reached the heights of baseball glory in 1956 for the New York Yankees when he threw a perfect game and the only no-hitter in World Series history, died Wednesday night. He was 90.

Larsen's agent, Andrew Levy, said the former pitcher died of esophageal cancer in Hayden, Idaho. Levy said Larsen's son, Scott, confirmed the death.

Larsen was the unlikeliest of characters to attain what so many Hall of Famers couldn't pull off in the fall classic. He was 81-91 lifetime, never won more than 11 games in a season and finished an unsightly 3-21 with Baltimore in 1954, the year before he was dealt to the Yankees as part of an 18-player trade.

In the 1956 World Series, won in seven games by the Yankees, he was knocked out in the second inning of Game 2 by the Brooklyn Dodgers and didn't think he would have another opportunity to pitch. But when he reached Yankee Stadium on the morning of Oct. 8, he found a baseball in his shoe, the signal from manager Casey Stengel that he would start Game 5.

The Dodgers and Yankees split the first four games and Stengel liked the deception of Larsen's no-windup delivery. The manager's instincts proved historically correct. The lanky right-hander struck out seven, needed just 97 pitches to tame the Dodgers and only once went to three balls on a batter.

Born Aug. 7, 1929 in Michigan City, Indiana, Larsen moved with his family to San Diego, where he went to Point Luma High School, the alma mater of another perfect game pitcher, David Wells.

Venus pulls out of Brisbane tournament

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Venus Williams has been forced to pull out of the Brisbane International following an undisclosed "setback" in training.

Tournament officials said Wednesday a replacement for the 52nd-ranked Williams will be named on Thursday. Williams had been given a wild card for the Brisbane event which starts Jan. 6.

The 39-year-old Williams still hopes to contest the Adelaide International from Jan. 13.

"Unfortunately I won't be starting my season in Brisbane due to an unexpected setback during my training," she said in a statement on Wednesday. "I look forward to being in Australia in the New Year and will see everyone at Adelaide."

Wild to host 2021 NHL Winter Classic

DALLAS (AP) — The 2021 NHL Winter Classic will be hosted by the Minnesota Wild at Target Field, the home stadium of the MLB's Twins.

NHL officials announced the site for next Winter Classic during this season's game Wednesday at Cotton Bowl Stadium in Dallas.

Minnesota's opponent for the next New Year's Day game will be determined later.

It will be the first Winter Classic for the Wild, and their second outdoor game.

They beat the visiting Chicago Blackhawks 6-1 in a Stadium Series game at TCF Bank Stadium in Minneapolis four years ago.

A crowd of 85,630, the second-largest at an NHL game, attended Wednesday's game between the Dallas Stars and Nashville Predators.

Airwaves

Television today

2:55 p.m. (NBCSports) **Premier League Soccer** Liverpool FC vs Sheffield United FC. (Live)
3:00 p.m. (ESPN) **College Football** TicketSmarter Birmingham Bowl — Boston College vs Cincinnati. (Live) 🆂🅲
6:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **High School Football** Under Armour All-America Game. (Live)
(Golf) **PGA Tour Golf** Sentry Tournament of Champions, First Round. (Live)
7:00 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Minnesota at Purdue. (Live) 🆂🅲
(ESPN) **College Football** TaxSlayer Gator Bowl — Indiana vs Tennessee. (Live) 🆂🅲
(NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** New Jersey Devils at New York Islanders. (Live)
8:00 p.m. 50 **AHL Hockey** Texas Stars at Chicago Wolves. (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Illinois at Michigan State. (Live) 🆂🅲
(NBCSCH) **NBA Basketball** Utah Jazz at Chicago Bulls. (Live) 🆂🅲
9:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** Oregon at Colorado. (Live)
9:30 p.m. (NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** St. Louis Blues at Colorado Avalanche. (Live)
10:00 p.m. (FS1) **College Basketball** UCLA at Washington. (Live) 🆂🅲
10:30 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **NBA Basketball** Detroit Pistons at Los Angeles Clippers. (Live)
11:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** California at Stanford. (Live)
(NBCSCH) **NHL Hockey** Chicago Blackhawks at Vancouver Canucks. (Joined in Progress)

Friday

3:30 p.m. (ESPN) **College Football** Famous Idaho Potato Bowl — Ohio vs Nevada. (Live) 🆂🅲
6:00 p.m. (Golf) **PGA Tour Golf** Sentry Tournament of Champions, Second Round. (Live)
7:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** UCF at Houston. (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Wisconsin at Ohio State. (Live) 🆂🅲
(NBCSports) **College Hockey** Western Michigan at Notre Dame. (Live)
8:00 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Rutgers at Nebraska. (Live) 🆂🅲
(ESPN) **NBA Basketball** Philadelphia 76ers at Houston Rockets. (Live)
(NBCSCH) **NBA G League Basketball** Wisconsin Herd at Windy City Bulls. (Live)
8:30 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **NHL Hockey** Detroit Red Wings at Dallas Stars. (Live)
9:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **High School Basketball** Patrick School (N.J.) vs. Sierra Canyon (Calif.). (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Georgetown at Seton Hall. (Live) 🆂🅲
10:30 p.m. (ESPN) **NBA Basketball** New Orleans Pelicans at Los Angeles Lakers. (Live)

Radio today

8 p.m.
College basketball – Illinois at Michigan State (WCSY-FM, 103.7)

Friday

7 p.m.
High school basketball – Benton Harbor at St. Joseph (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)

Contact us

The Herald-Palladium sports desk is staffed after 7 p.m. nightly. Coaches or managers are asked to report results as soon as possible the evening of the event for publication in the next day's edition.

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MSU basketball all-decade team: Who were the best of the 2010s?

By Chris SOLARI
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

EAST LANSING — The decade began and ended the same way for Tom Izzo and Michigan State basketball.

With a Final Four appearance.

The Spartans added Final Four banners in 2010, 2015 and 2019, upping Izzo's total to seven over his first 24 seasons.

They also took home four Big Ten regular-season championships, including the past two years, and four postseason tournament titles.

Along the way, Izzo also produced four All-Americans, three Big Ten players of the year and two national players of the year.

Here are the Free Press picks for the all-decade MSU basketball team.

PG Cassius Winston

Backup: Kalin Lucas

It is hard to argue what Winston has meant to MSU on and off the court in his four seasons, winning Big Ten player of the year and earning All-American honors in 2019 while guiding the Spartans to the Final Four. Lucas, the Spartans' fifth all-time leading scorer, was a dynamic playmaker early in the decade and a first-team All-Big Ten pick in 2010.

SG Denzel Valentine

Backup: Gary Harris

Valentine's development over a four-year career took him to the NBA and earned him multiple national and Big Ten player of the year awards in 2016, a year after he helped the Spartans to the Final Four. Harris played only two seasons but excelled as a defender and scorer in earning first-team All-Big Ten in 2014 before leaving for the NBA.

SF Miles Bridges

Backup: Branden Dawson

Bridges was Izzo's highest rated recruit and lived up to the hype in two electrifying seasons, earning second-team All-America and first-team All-Big Ten honors in 2018.

Dawson was a steady contributor on both the offensive and defensive ends over a four-year career, earning second-team All-Big Ten while thriving down the stretch of MSU's 2015 Final Four run.

PF Draymond Green

Backup: Jaren Jackson Jr.

No player epitomized the toughness and tenacity of Izzo's program more than Green, who was Big Ten and NABC national player of the year in 2012 to cap a career that included three conference titles and two Final Fours. Jackson played just one season, but he was Big Ten freshman and defensive player of the year in 2018 and is a budding NBA superstar.

C Adreian Payne

Backup: Nick Ward

Payne consistently developed into a versatile scoring threat both inside and outside, earning second-team All-Big Ten honors in 2013 and 2014. Ward earned third-team all-conference honors in 2018 and 2019 while providing a deft scoring touch and physical rebounding presence inside before leaving for a pro career after three seasons.

Mark J. Terrill / AP

Oregon quarterback Justin Herbert runs for a touchdown past Wisconsin linebacker Jack Sanborn during second half of the Rose Bowl on Wednesday.

Herbert, Oregon beat Wisconsin in Rose Bowl

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PASADENA, Calif. — Justin Herbert faked a handoff and went on the run of his life in the fourth quarter of the Rose Bowl.

Oregon's 6-foot-6 quarterback gracefully stiff-armed Wisconsin linebacker Jack Sanborn at the line of scrimmage. He surged downfield, found his blockers and sprinted to the green-painted end zone, even absorbing a very late hit from the frustrated Badgers as a reward.

The Eugene kid who took over his beloved hometown team during its worst season of this century had just scored the decisive touchdown of the biggest win of his career. A few minutes and a couple of big passes later, the Ducks all celebrated amid confetti and roses at midfield after Herbert's final college game.

"I wish it wasn't over," Herbert said. "This has been the best four years of my life. I've been honored to be a part of this team."

Herbert scored his third rushing touchdown of the 106th Rose Bowl on that thrilling 30-yard run with 7:41 to play Wednesday night, and No. 7 Oregon held off No. 11 Wisconsin 28-27 to win its third straight trip to the Granddaddy of Them All.

Herbert passed for just 138 yards without a touchdown, and Oregon (12-2) managed just 204 yards of offense — the fewest by any Rose Bowl team in 40 years. The Ducks still managed to win yet another frenetic edition of this venerated bowl game, surviving six lead changes and big special-teams mistakes by both schools.

While the offense sputtered, the Ducks scored 21 points off the Badgers' four turnovers, including Brady Breeze's early 31-yard fumble return for a TD off a botched punt.

And on the next snap after Breeze forced another fumble in the fourth quarter, Herbert rambled through the Wisconsin defense for that 30-yard score in what's sure to be the signature moment of the four-year starter's career.

"I'm going to be honest with you, we've been telling him to run all year," Oregon linebacker La'Mar Winston Jr. said. "He runs in practice and torches, so I told him, 'Man, pull that thing and get loose.' Stiff-arming dudes. Juking dudes. Is he a running back or a quarterback? We don't know."

Winston's praise aside, Herbert had only 10 rushing touchdowns in the first 41 starts of his career. He turned into a big-play ballcarrier on Arroyo Seco's hallowed ground, and Oregon improbably relied on its quarterback's long legs to grind out a landmark victory under second-year head coach Mario Cristobal, Herbert's third coach in four years.

Herbert scored on runs of 4 and 5 yards in the first half, stiff-arming Wisconsin defenders on both runs. After his go-ahead TD, Herbert got back to what he normally does best: He made a key 12-yard throw to Mycah Pittman for a first down with 1:51 to play, and his 28-yard throw to Juwan Johnson with 1:03 left allowed the Ducks to run out the clock.

Outback Bowl

TAMPA, Fla. — Tyler Johnson had 12 receptions for 204 yards and two touchdowns Wednesday to become Minnesota's career receiving leader and propel the 16th-ranked Gophers to a 31-24 victory over No. 9 Auburn in the Outback Bowl.

Johnson broke Eric Decker's school record for receiving yards on his second catch of the day and became Minnesota's all-time leader for scoring receptions on a one-handed, 2-yard TD catch that put the Gophers (11-2) up 24-17 at halftime. His 73-yard catch-and-run put his team ahead for good early in the fourth quarter.

Minnesota, which began the season with nine straight victories before losing two of its last three to Big Ten rivals Iowa and Wisconsin, finished with more than 10 wins for the first time since 1904. Auburn (9-4) concluded a season in which all four of its losses came against opponents ranked in the Top 25.

Tanner Morgan completed 19 of 29 passes for 278 yards, one interception and both of the TDs to Johnson, who finished with 3,305 receiving yards and 33 TD catches in his career. Receiver Seth Green tossed a 1-yard touchdown pass to Bryce Witham on fourth-and-inches midway through the second quarter.

Noah Igbinoghene, who mother and father were both Olympic track and field athletes in Nigeria, returned a kickoff 96 yards for Auburn's first touchdown. Bo Nix threw a 37-yard TD pass to Sal Cannella and JaTarvious Whitlow scored 3-yard run that made it 24-24 heading into the fourth quarter.

Morgan broke the tie with his second TD throw to Johnson, who posted the 16th 100-yard game of his career and caught at least one TD pass for the seventh straight game, tying a another school record.

The Gophers dominated on the ground, too, outrushing Auburn 215 yards to 56. Mohamed Ibrahim ran for 140 yards on 20 carries, and Rodney Smith finished with 69 on 16 attempts.

Nix was 17 of 26 for 176 yards, one TD and no interceptions.

The Tigers finished the season with two victories against teams that entered the bowls in the AP top-10 in Oregon and Alabama and lost to Florida, Georgia and LSU by a combined 21 points.

Wings look for better 2nd half of season

By TED KULFAN
The Detroit News (TNS)

DETROIT – There was something different from the Red Wings in their game Tuesday night against San Jose.

Aside from actually winning, that is.

The Wings played a much more gritty game against the bigger, physical Sharks.

The Wings showed signs of more physical play on the two-game road trip through Florida last weekend, and definitely extended that approach during Tuesday's 2-0 victory.

Coach Jeff Blashill and the Red Wings players believe this could be the recipe for future success.

"The last three games have been pretty chippy, and we've been more physical," said forward Tyler Bertuzzi, who celebrated his selection to the All-Star Game with his 15th goal. "That gets guys up on the bench and keeps the bench going and moving."

The Sharks attempted to set a physical tone early when Joel Kellman hit Wings defenseman Brian Lashoff hard in the corner, a hit that kept Lashoff down on the ice momentarily.

But Alex Biega came to Lashoff's defense and battled Kellman.

"We competed really, really hard on the puck," Blashill said. "That's what it takes. Basically, the game comes down to one-on-one battles and we did a real good job in those one-on-one battles,"

Later in the game, Justin Abdelkader and the Sharks' Barclay Goodrow fought, and Bertuzzi and San Jose's Stefan Noesen tangled.

The Sharks, on several occasions, went after defenseman Filip Hronek, whose empty-net goal clinched the victory and whose aggressive style got the Sharks' unhinged.

"He plays with an edge and we need that," forward Dylan Larkin said. "He's not afraid to take a hit to make a play and not afraid to give a hit. I'm sure he's frustrating to play against."

Whenever San Jose wanted to establish itself physically, the Wings wouldn't back down. It was a needed and successful way to play for the Wings.

"There are a lot of guys over there that like to play physical," Larkin said.

Local sports calendar

By HP STAFF

Youth sports

St. Joseph Lions Club 6th/7th/8th grade basketball tournament: Jan. 25 at St. Joseph High School. Limited to 16 teams. No club, travel or local all-star teams. Cost is $65 if you are providing your own uniform, $145 if you would like the Lions Club to provide you with a designed shirt your players get to keep. Admission is $5 for adults, $3 for K-12 for Saturday games. For more information, contact Bret Witkowski at 982-8645 or baewitkowski@yahoo.com.

St. Joe Kickers Indoor Soccer League: Second-session games begin Jan. 24 and continue until March. Registration available now until Jan. 10 at http://www.stjoekickers.com. For more information contact St. Joe Kickers sports director Chris Haack at cbhaack@yahoo.com

The Local Sports Calendar appears twice weekly. Submit your items to sports@TheHP.com.

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

State Team Rankings

Division 1

1. Detroit Catholic Central, 2. Davison, 3. Brighton, 4. Hartland, 5. Temperance-Bedford, 6. Holt, 7. Rockford, 8. Macomb Dakota, 9. Battle Creek Lakeview, 10. Clarkston.

Division 2

1. Lowell, 2. Gaylord, 3. Whitehall, 4. DeWitt, 5. Eaton Rapids, 6. Warren Woods Tower, **7. Lakeshore**, 8. Muskegon Reeths-Puffer, **9. Niles**, 10. Jackson Northwest.

Division 3

1. Dundee, 2. Richmond, 3. Alma, 4. Chippewa Hills, 5. Lakewood, 6. Montrose, 7. Fremont, **8. Dowagiac**, 9. Birch Run, 10. Portland.

Division 4

1. Clinton, 2. New Lothrop, 3. Hudson, 4. Manchester, 5. Carson City, 6. Pine River, 7. Hart. 8. Leslie, 9. Mendon, 10. Addison.

Individual rankings

As of Jan. 1

Area wrestlers in Top 10

DIVISION 2

103 – 1. Nolan Wertanen, St. Joseph; 4. Mike Robles, Niles. 112 - 2. Cam Litaker, Lakeshore; 5. Jordan Zimmerman, Niles. 119 – 7. Aaron Lucio, Lakeshore. 125 – 8. Jonathan Gelesko, Lakeshore. 130 – 5. Micah Hesa, Lakeshore; 9. Jacob Heisey, St. Joseph. 135 – 1. Shane Williams, Lakeshore; 6. Ryan Franco, Niles. 140 – 6. Javond Ball, Niles. 145 – 5. Jackson Hoover, Edwardsburg; 6. Kade Wagley, Niles. 152 – 9. James Harris, Lakeshore. 215 – 9. Zeke Rohl, Lakeshore.

DIVISION 3

103 - 7. Jordan Simpson, Dowagiac. 112 – 10. Trevor Pelton, Watervliet. 119 – 8, Caleb Ishmael, Coloma. 130 – 9. Ray Woodall, South Haven. 135 – 9. Alex McIntosh, Dowagiac; 10. Jason Racz, Paw Paw. 145 – 3. Hunter Heath, Brandywine. 152 – 9. Nick Martinz, Paw Paw. 285 – 3. Wyatt Bailey, Dowagiac; 5. Cole Alsup, Coloma.

DIVISION 4

130 – 10. William Westphal, Cassopolis. 135 – 6. Romeo Lopez, Decatur. 140 – 5. Landyn VanWyk, Lawton. 171 – 2. Jared Checkley, Decatur. 285 – 8. Juan Villanueva, Lawrence; 9. Kenny Mann, Decatur.

BOWLING

COLOMA LANES

GEORGE HUFFMAN MEMORIAL – Bradley Flowers 793 (300), Dan Gulliver 748 (290), Jerry Price 703 (276), Josh Swetay 701 (256), David Schewar 695 (235), Gary Gargone 697 (259), Mike Mass 684 (279), Bob McCormick 672 (276), Tim Kling 673 (233).

KELLEY'S BOWL

FRIDAY NIGHT MIXED — Nate Schuman 674 (242), Nathan Doroh 674 (239), Aaron Collins 643 (222), Dan Zimmerman 632 (222), Kristine Mahler 544 (192), Michele Briney 523 (191). Team scores: Fro Pro's 2297 (836), Strokers 2288 (785), Regulators 2170 (754).

AREA SCHEDULE

Today

Wrestling

Lakeshore quad, 5:30

Friday

Boys basketball

Watervliet at Wyoming Lee, 5
River Valley at Bridgman, 6:30
Benton Harbor at St. Joseph, 7:15

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	23	8	.742	—
Toronto	23	11	.676	1½
Philadelphia	23	13	.639	2½
Brooklyn	16	16	.500	7½
New York	10	24	.294	14½

Southeast Division

Miami	24	9	.727	—
Orlando	15	19	.441	9½
Charlotte	13	23	.361	12½
Washington	10	23	.303	14
Atlanta	7	27	.206	17½

Central Division

Milwaukee	31	5	.861	—
Indiana	22	12	.647	8
Chicago	13	21	.382	17
Detroit	12	22	.353	18
Cleveland	10	23	.303	19½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Houston	23	11	.676	—
Dallas	21	12	.636	1½
San Antonio	14	18	.438	8
Memphis	13	21	.382	10
New Orleans	11	23	.324	12

Northwest Division

Denver	23	10	.697	—
Utah	21	12	.636	2
Oklahoma City	18	15	.545	5
Portland	14	21	.400	10
Minnesota	12	21	.364	11

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	26	7	.788	—
L.A. Clippers	24	11	.686	3
Phoenix	13	20	.394	13
Sacramento	12	22	.353	14½
Golden State	9	26	.257	18

Tuesday's Games

Boston 109, Charlotte 92
Indiana 115, Philadelphia 97
L.A. Clippers 105, Sacramento 87
Toronto 117, Cleveland 97
Houston 130, Denver 104
San Antonio 117, Golden State 113, OT
Oklahoma City 106, Dallas 101

Wednesday's Games

Orlando 122, Washington 101
New York 117, Portland 93
Milwaukee 106, Minnesota 104
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers

Today's Games

Charlotte at Cleveland
Denver at Indiana
Toronto at Miami
Golden State at Minnesota
Utah at Chicago
Brooklyn at Dallas
Oklahoma City at San Antonio
Memphis at Sacramento
Detroit at L.A. Clippers

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	41	24	7	10	58	138	105
Toronto	41	22	14	5	49	146	132
Tampa Bay	38	21	13	4	46	137	120
Florida	39	20	14	5	45	139	134
Montreal	40	18	16	6	42	131	131
Buffalo	41	17	17	7	41	121	131
Ottawa	40	16	19	5	37	111	132
Detroit	41	10	28	3	23	89	157

Metropolitan Division

Washington	41	27	9	5	59	146	122
N.Y. Islanders	38	25	10	3	53	114	100
Pittsburgh	39	24	11	4	52	136	104
Carolina	40	24	14	2	50	136	112
Philadelphia	40	22	13	5	49	127	118
Columbus	40	18	14	8	44	105	112
N.Y. Rangers	39	19	16	4	42	129	132
New Jersey	39	14	19	6	34	102	138

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

St. Louis	41	26	9	6	58	128	107
Colorado	40	23	13	4	50	144	119
Dallas	41	23	14	4	50	111	103
Winnipeg	40	22	15	3	47	125	120
Minnesota	41	19	17	5	43	126	137
Nashville	39	18	15	6	42	134	131
Chicago	41	18	17	6	42	118	132

Pacific Division

Vegas	43	22	15	6	50	134	125
Arizona	42	22	16	4	48	118	108
Vancouver	40	21	15	4	46	132	119
Edmonton	42	21	17	4	46	125	134
Calgary	42	20	17	5	45	114	127
Los Angeles	42	17	21	4	38	109	132
Anaheim	40	16	19	5	37	103	124
San Jose	41	17	21	3	37	109	139

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Tuesday's Games

New Jersey 3, Boston 2, SO
N.Y. Islanders 4, Washington 3
Vegas 5, Anaheim 2
Toronto 4, Minnesota 1
Tampa Bay 6, Buffalo 4
Carolina 3, Montreal 1
Columbus 4, Florida 1
Detroit 2, San Jose 0
Winnipeg 7, Colorado 4
Arizona 3, St. Louis 1
Chicago 5, Calgary 3
Edmonton 7, N.Y. Rangers 5
Los Angeles 5, Philadelphia 3

Wednesday's Game

Dallas 4, Nashville 2

Today's Games

Columbus at Boston, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Montreal, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Florida at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Arizona, 9 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Calgary, 9 p.m.
St. Louis at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.
Chicago at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Philadelphia at Vegas, 10 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

ALABAMA 35, MICHIGAN 16

Michigan	**10**	**6**	**0**	**0**	**— 16**
Alabama	**7**	**7**	**7**	**14**	**— 35**

First Quarter

BAMA-Jeudy 85 pass from M.Jones (Bulovas kick), 13:47.
MICH-Eubanks 7 pass from Patterson (Nordin kick), 7:06.
MICH-FG Nordin 36, :09.

Second Quarter

MICH-FG Nordin 42, 7:16.
BAMA-N.Harris 9 run (Bulovas kick), 3:32.
MICH-FG Nordin 57, :00.

Third Quarter

BAMA-D.Smith 42 pass from M.Jones (Bulovas kick), 13:30.

Fourth Quarter

BAMA-Forristall 20 pass from M.Jones (Bulovas kick), 10:01.
BAMA-N.Harris 2 run (Bulovas kick), :26.
A-59,746.

	Mich	Bama
First downs	23	20
Rushes-yards	43-162	30-153
Passing	233	327
Comp-Att-Int	17-37-2	16-25-0
Return Yards	120	36
Punts-Avg.	5-36.4	6-42.3
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	7-61	5-25
Time of Possession	34:47	25:13

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING-Michigan, Charbonnet 13-84, Haskins 18-61, Bell 1-9, Patterson 8-4, Peoples-Jones 1-2, G.Jackson 2-2, Alabama, N.Harris 24-136, B.Robinson 3-16, Jeudy 1-1, Ruggs 1-0, M.Jones 1-0.
PASSING-Michigan, Patterson 17-37-2-233. Alabama, M.Jones 16-25-0-327.
RECEIVING-Michigan, G.Jackson 4-57, Bell 4-53, N.Collins 4-48, Eubanks 2-14, Peoples-Jones 1-34, Haskins 1-19, Sainristil 1-8. Alabama, Jeudy 6-204, D.Smith 3-56, Forristall 3-36, Ruggs 2-27, Waddle 1-7, J.Billingsley 1-(minus 3).
MISSED FIELD GOALS-None.

Bowl glance
Friday, Dec. 20
Bahamas Bowl
Nassau

Buffalo 31, Charlotte 9

Saturday, Dec. 21
Celebration Bowl
At Atlanta

NC A&T 64, Alcorn State 44

New Mexico Bowl
Albuquerque

San Diego State 48, Central Michigan 11

Cure Bowl
Orlando, Fla.

Liberty 23, Georgia Southern 16

Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl

FAU 52, SMU 28

Camellia Bowl
Montgomery, Ala.

Arkansas State 34, FIU 26

New Orleans Bowl

Appalachian State 31, UAB 17

Las Vegas Bowl

Washington 38, Boise State 7

Monday, Dec. 23
Gasparilla Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.

UCF 48, Marshall 25

Tuesday, Dec. 24
Hawaii Bowl
Honolulu

Hawaii 38, BYU 34

Thursday, Dec. 26
Independence Bowl
Shreveport, La.

Louisiana Tech 14, Miami 0

Quick Lane Bowl
Detroit

Pittsburgh 34, Eastern Michigan 30

Friday, Dec. 27
Military Bowl
Annapolis, Md.

North Carolina 55, Temple 13

Pinstripe Bowl
New York

Michigan State 27, Wake Forest 21

Texas Bowl
Houston

Texas A&M 24, Oklahoma State 21

Holiday Bowl
San Diego

Iowa 49, Southern Cal 24

Cheez-It Bowl
Phoenix

Air Force 31, Washington State 21

Saturday, Dec. 28
Camping World Bowl
Orlando, Fla.

Notre Dame 33, Iowa State 9

Cotton Bowl Classic
Arlington, Texas

Penn State 53, Memphis 39

Peach Bowl
Atlanta

CFP Semifinal: LSU 63, Oklahoma 28

Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.

CFP Semifinal: Clemson 29, Ohio State 23

Monday, Dec. 30
First Responder Bowl
Dallas

Western Kentucky 23, Western Michigan 20

Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.

Louisville 38, Mississippi State 28

Redbox Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.

California 35, Illinois 20

Orange Bowl
Miami Gardens, Fla.

Florida 36, Virginia Tech 20

Tuesday, Dec. 31
Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.

Kentucky 37, Virginia Tech 30

Sun Bowl
El Paso, Texas

Arizona State 20, Florida State 14

Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.

Navy 20, Kansas State 17

Arizona Bowl
Tucson, Ariz.

Wyoming 38, Georgia State 17

Alamo Bowl
San Antonio

Texas 38, Utah 10

Wednesday, Jan. 1
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.

Alabama 35, Michigan 16

Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.

Minnesota 31, Auburn 24

Rose Bowl
Pasadena, Calif.

Oregon 28, Wisconsin 27

Sugar Bowl
New Orleans

Georgia (11-2) vs. Baylor (11-2)

Thursday, Jan. 2
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl

Cincinnati (10-3) vs. Boston College (6-6), 3 p.m. (ESPN)

Gator Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.

Indiana (8-4) vs. Tennessee (7-5), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Jan. 3
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Boise

Ohio (6-6) vs. Nevada (7-5), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 4
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth, Texas

Southern Miss (7-5) vs. Tulane (6-6), 11:30 a.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 6
Lendingtree Bowl
Mobile, Ala.

Miami (Ohio) (8-5) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette (10-3), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 13
College Football Championship
New Orleans

Clemson (14-0) vs. LSU (14-0), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

NFL

Playoffs
Wild Card Round
Saturday, Jan. 4

Buffalo at Houston, 4:35 p.m. (ESPN / ABC)
Tennessee at New England, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)

Sunday, Jan. 5

Minnesota at New Orleans, 1:05 p.m. (FOX)
Seattle at Philadelphia, 4:40 p.m. (NBC)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wednesday's men's games

SOUTH

ETSU 49, Wofford 48
Furman 89, VMI 73
Samford 69, The Citadel 68
UNC-Greensboro 72, Mercer 63

MIDWEST

Cincinnati 67, UConn 51
Creighton 92, Marquette 75
Fort Wayne 70, South Dakota 59
Wichita St. 75, East Carolina 69

SOUTHWEST

SMU 82, South Florida 64

FAR WEST

Boise St. 65, Wyoming 54
Nevada 67, Colorado St. 61
San Diego St. 61, Fresno St. 52

Bears hire Castillo as offensive line coach

By RICH CAMPBELL
Chicago Tribune (TNS)

Bears coach Matt Nagy moved quickly Wednesday to fill a vacancy on his staff, hiring veteran coach Juan Castillo to oversee the offensive line.

Two sources with knowledge of the situation confirmed the news, which was first reported by NFL Network and not announced by the Bears.

Castillo replaces Harry Hiestand, who was fired Tuesday along with three other assistant coaches. Nagy also dismissed offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich, tight ends coach Kevin Gilbride and assistant special teams coach Brock Olivo. Nagy made those changes after the Bears finished 29th in the NFL in scoring and total offense.

Castillo, 60, was the Eagles offensive line coach in 2008 when Nagy got his first NFL job as an Eagles coaching intern. Castillo served as the Eagles offensive line coach from 1998-2010, at which time he became their defensive coordinator for two seasons.

Between 2013-2018, Castillo held offensive line coach and running-game coordinator titles with the Ravens and Bills. The Bills fired him after the 2018 season, and he did not coach in the NFL this season.

It was not immediately clear whether Nagy would give Castillo the title of running-game coordinator or, perhaps, use that to make the offensive coordinator vacancy more attractive.

One challenge for Nagy in finding a coordinator is that he is the play-caller and lead offensive coach. Whoever takes the job will do so knowing their stamp on the offense will not include that coveted play-calling role.

Helfrich's duties included oversight of the running game, which ranked 29th in the NFL in yards per carry.

STERN

From page C1

Stern suffered a brain hemorrhage on Dec. 12 and underwent emergency surgery. The league said he died with his wife, Dianne, and their family at his bedside.

"The entire basketball community is heartbroken," the National Basketball Players Association said. "David Stern earned and deserved inclusion in our land of giants."

Stern had been involved with the NBA for nearly two decades before he became its fourth commissioner on Feb. 1, 1984. By the time he left his position in 2014 — he wouldn't say or let league staffers say "retire," because he never stopped working — a league that fought for a foothold before him had grown to a more than $5 billion a year industry and made NBA basketball perhaps the world's most popular sport after soccer.

"Because of David, the NBA is a truly global brand — making him not only one of the greatest sports commissioners of all time, but also one of the most influential business leaders of his generation," said Adam Silver, who followed Stern as commissioner. "Every member of the NBA family is the beneficiary of David's vision, generosity and inspiration."

Thriving on good debate in the boardroom and good games in the arena, Stern would say one of his greatest achievements was guiding a league of mostly black players that was plagued by drug problems in the 1970s to popularity with mainstream America.

He had a hand in nearly every initiative to do that, from the drug testing program, to the implementation of the salary cap, to the creation of a dress code.

But for Stern, it was always about "the game," and his morning often included reading about the previous night's results in the newspaper — even after technological advances he embraced made reading NBA.com easier than ever.

"The game is what brought us here. It's always about the game and everything else we do is about making the stage or the presentation of the game even stronger, and the game itself is in the best shape that it's ever been in," he said on the eve of the 2009-10 season, calling it "a new golden age for the NBA."

One that was largely created by Stern during a three-decade run that turned countless ballplayers into celebrities who were known around the globe by one name: Magic, Michael, Kobe, LeBron, just to name a few.

Stern oversaw the birth of seven new franchises and the creation of the WNBA and NBA Development League, now the G League, providing countless opportunities to pursue careers playing basketball in the United States that previously weren't available.

CITRUS

From page C1

or less — Jeudy's score on Alabama's first play and a long go-ahead touchdown grab by Smith early in the third quarter. They were quick-strike all season long, with 22 TD drives taking 1:30 or less and 38 TDs coming in 2:00 or less.

And the last of those was the one that put this game away for Alabama with 10:01 remaining.

Facing 3rd-and-11 from its own 8, Jones connected with Jeudy for 14 yards. On the next snap, Jones and Jeudy hooked up for 58 more yards. And the next snap was a 20-yard scoring pass to a wide-open Forristall.

THE TAKEAWAY

Michigan: The Wolverines have dropped 16 straight road or neutral-site games against teams ranked No. 15 or higher in the AP poll, including all 10 under Harbaugh. The last time the Wolverines won such a game was Jan. 3, 2012 over then-No. 11 Virginia Tech.

Alabama: It was the 12th bowl or playoff-game win for Saban. That tied him with Paul "Bear" Bryant for the most in school history. And the Crimson Tide won their 27th consecutive game when allowing less than 40 points.

PLAYING

Alabama WR Henry Ruggs III — a 2020 first-round draft possibility if he skips his senior season — took a shot to the head with 9:30 left in the third quarter and was placed into the concussion protocol. The Crimson Tide had only two players skip the bowl game for draft preparation, cornerback Trevon Diggs and linebacker Terrell Lewis. Harris was another who might jump to the NFL who elected to play for Alabama.

NORDIN'S DAY

Along with the school-record-tying 57-yarder to end the half — Hayden Epstein also connected from 57 yards out in the first quarter at Michigan State on Nov. 3, 2001 — Nordin finished the day 3 for 3 on field goal tries. It wrapped up a perfect season for kickers facing the Crimson Tide: They went 20 for 20 on field goals.

SPECIAL GUEST

Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross and members of the team's front office were on the field pregame, watching warmups. Ross is a prominent Michigan alum — there is a Stephen M. Ross Athletic Campus spanning 280,000 square feet in Ann Arbor.

And the Dolphins are also one of the teams that seem likely to consider drafting Tagovailoa if he turns pro.

UP NEXT

Michigan: Opens next season on Sept. 5 at Washington, the first meeting between those schools in 18 years. It begins a home-and-home, with the Huskies going to Ann Arbor on Sept. 11, 2021.

Alabama: Opens next season on Sept. 5 against USC in Arlington, Texas. It'll be the ninth consecutive season in which the Crimson Tide open with a neutral-site game; they're 8-0 so far in those.

SANG

From page C1

and their ability to keep us out of the end zone and through the drives," Harbaugh said. "We had long drives and settled for field goals."

None of this is new to Michigan. Thanks to Harbaugh, the Wolverines have dug themselves out of their early 2010s malaise, but his tenure has become increasingly defined by an inability to join the upper caste of college football. Part of it is recruiting; the Wolverines didn't have a player of Jeudy's caliber on Wednesday. But part of it, at least against elite teams, is a consistent mixture of strong play with spells of penalties, missed opportunities and allowing big gains.

Just like against the Buckeyes in November, U-M's offense burst out of the gates and faltered late. The defense strung together a few stops but struggled to contain Alabama's dynamic play-makers. Yet again, explosive plays were the downfall for defensive coordinator Don Brown and his defense.

What's left is a sensation of deja vu when reflecting upon Harbaugh's tenure in Ann Arbor. Since 2016, Michigan has played with an uncanny level of symmetry. In the even years, the Wolverines have hosted Wisconsin and Penn State and beaten them. In the odd years, they've lost to both teams on the road. And in every year, they've lost to Ohio State and whichever team they play in the bowl game (usually somewhere in Florida).

The climb to join college football's elite remains as steep as ever. And it's easy to wonder what else the Wolverines can do to reach it.

Harbaugh has been willing to make changes in his program, most recently overhauling the offense and giving control to Gattis in his first year as offensive coordinator. And while the moves have had differing amounts of success, they haven't been effective enough to propel Michigan into the same air as Ohio State and Alabama. Recruiting has stagnated similar to the on-field product, with consistently good-but-not-outstanding classes.

Put it all together, and you have a conclusion to the season that seems predictable. Which means that, once again, Michigan's heading into the off-season in almost the exact same position as the previous year.

Good. But not quite good enough.

KAPALUA

From page C1

elite players to control their shots, and make it easier for resort guests who found the course too long because the ball wasn't rolling as far as it once did.

The entire course was grassed with a new strain called "Celebration Bermuda."

The greens were redone with TifEagle Bermuda, with some ridges and plateaus added to create more hole locations and restore some shot-making value. Missing on the wrong spot of certain greens becomes more penal.

"Instead of having one gradual slope, now it's kind of turned into shelf," Justin Thomas said. "And you have to maybe focus a little bit more on being on the correct side of the shelf, or the correct side of the hole."

The course re-opened two months ago. The first big test is the Tournament of Champions.

Because the grass is new, and with ample rain over the last month, the fairways remain relatively soft. That should change over time, but there have been enough examples during practice to let players know what to expect.

Defending champion Xander Schauffele hammered a drive on the downhill, 667-yard closing hole and was surprised to see it hop out of pitch mark instead of bouncing forward. The pitch mark was 8 feet behind where his ball finished.

"If it firms up, it's going to be awesome," said Kevin Kisner, who needs some roll to play a 7,596-yard course at par 73.

All the bunkers were rebuilt with drainage. Some were moved to tighten the landing area, such as on the 16th and most noticeably on the par-5 fifth.

It appears to be in the middle of the fairway, but it narrows the landing area.

For now, that might not be an issue because the fairway is soft enough it's hard for anyone to reach it.

The biggest change, at least for the players who have previously played this winners-only event, are the sharpened slopes on some of the greens and the length, mainly on No. 3, 4, 9 and 10.

"Another one they renovated they didn't make shorter. I've yet to see that," Kisner said with a grin.

The Mini Page®

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!

Next Week: Our 2020 Calendar!

Issue 52, 2019 Founded by Betty Debnam

Mini Fact: Check out this list of great books for kids at bit.ly/MPALA.

Cold weather and time off from school add up to lots of chances to read! Stack up new and old favorites, or check out some of these suggestions from The Mini Page.

image courtesy HarperCollins

• What if you could travel back in time, just by holding a metal object from a particular era? That's what Corey Fletcher can do in **"Throwback"** by Peter Lerangis. But in this first book of a series, Corey bites off more than he can chew.

• If it's inspiration you're after, then you may want to spend some time with **"Leading the Way: Women in Power"** by Virginia State Sen. Janet Howell and Theresa Howell. With illustrations from Kylie Akia and Alexandra Bye, this collection of female trailblazers will give young readers role models to look up to.

image courtesy Candlewick Press

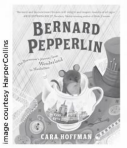

image courtesy HarperCollins

• Author Cara Hoffman takes "Alice in Wonderland" a step further as she imagines a new adventure — in New York City! — for the sleepy Dormouse from that classic in **"Bernard Pepperlin."**

• Young readers who love to read about history, and especially the world wars, will dig in to **"Three Days at the Brink"** by Bret Baier. This young reader edition tells the story of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's meeting with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin in November 1943.

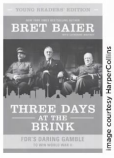

image courtesy HarperCollins

image courtesy Random House Kids

• Piper is hoping to make her mark at her new school by winning a special prize. Along the way, she learns what it means to **"Shine!"** Authors J.J. and Chris Grabenstein turn kindness and empathy into award-winning qualities in this chapter book.

• For a strong dose of sports *and* history, check out **"Games of Deception."** Author Andrew Maraniss tells of the first U.S. Olympic basketball team, from the day they left New York City on the S.S. *Manhattan* to their stepping up to receive gold medals in the new sport. The 1936 Olympics were in Berlin, Germany, just as the Nazis were beginning their campaign against Jewish people and others. Great historical photos accompany the text.

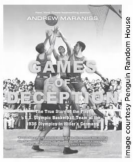

image courtesy Penguin Random House

The Mini Page® © 2019 Andrews McMeel Syndication

• A new year is a perfect time to begin a new journal. Two for girls pose questions that'll put your mind to work: **"The Confidence Code for Girls Journal"** by Katty Kay and Claire Shipman, and **"Make Your Mark: A Journal for Capturing Big Dreams"** by Amy Richards. Learn more about yourself and be inspired by others.

image courtesy HarperCollins

image courtesy Penguin

image courtesy Candlewick Press

• If you'd rather get lost in a fanciful story, go along with Mother Shrew in **"Wild Honey From the Moon,"** written and illustrated by Kenneth Kraegel. As her little shrew, Hugo, lies sick in his bed, Mother Shrew travels all the way to the moon and back to get him the one thing that will cure him.

• For younger readers who love science, author Lori Haskins Houran presents **"Thomas Edison: Lighting the Way."** The story of Edison's improved lightbulb and other inventions is illustrated by Gustavo Mazali.

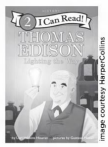

image courtesy HarperCollins

Resources

On the Web:
• bit.ly/MPwinterbooks

At the library:
• "Chapter Two Is Missing!" by Josh Lieb

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of winter reading are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:

ADVENTURE, AUTHOR, BOOKS, EMPATHY, FANCIFUL, HISTORY, ILLUSTRATOR, IMAGINATION, INSPIRATION, INVENTIONS, JOURNALS, KINDNESS, READ, SCHOOL, SCIENCE, SPORTS, WAR, WINTER.

H	A	A	D	V	E	N	T	U	R	E	Z	Z	S	F
S	U	Y	R	O	T	S	I	H	R	O	H	T	C	A
S	T	Z	H	Z	S	L	A	N	R	U	O	J	H	J
E	H	S	N	O	I	T	N	E	V	N	I	E	O	R
N	O	I	T	A	R	I	P	S	N	I	O	H	O	E
D	R	E	A	D	F	F	A	N	C	I	F	U	L	T
N	S	C	I	E	N	C	E	Z	B	O	O	K	S	N
I	M	A	G	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	R	A	W	I
K	R	O	T	A	R	T	S	U	L	L	I	J	Y	W
S	T	R	O	P	S	H	Y	H	T	A	P	M	E	S

Cook's Corner

Oodles of Noodles

You'll need:
• 1 (8-ounce) package soba noodles
• 1 green onion, chopped
• 1 tablespoon toasted sesame seeds*
• 2 tablespoons Bragg liquid aminos
• 2 teaspoons olive oil
• Optional: fresh ginger, grated or chopped small

What to do:
1. Cook soba noodles according to package directions, then rinse and drain off as much water as possible.
2. Put noodles in a large mixing bowl, then add rest of ingredients.
3. Stir gently and serve warm or chill in the fridge. Serves 4.

(*Toast sesame seeds in a small dry frying pan. Turn off heat as soon as they smell toasty and transfer to a small dry bowl.)

Adapted from "The Help Yourself Cookbook for Kids" with permission from Andrews McMeel Publishing (andrewsmcmeel.com).

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

1. Mars or Saturn (6) _____
2. you have five on each hand (7) _____
3. it helps you glide on ice (5) _____
4. very small rock (6) _____
5. try to give (5) _____
6. where firefighters get water (7) _____
7. small piece (8) _____

FER	ION	ACT	SK
ATE	PLA	HY	BLE
NT	FR	OF	GERS
FIN	PEB	NET	DRA

Answers: planet, fingers, skate, pebble, offer, hydrant, fraction.

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Mini Jokes

Winnie: Why was the dinosaur afraid to go to the library?
Will: Her books were 65 million years overdue!

Eco Note

The average person in the U.S. wastes 231 pounds of food annually. If converted to energy, that's enough to power a 100-watt bulb for two weeks. We can help prevent food waste by planning meals in advance to prevent having extra food, getting more creative about using up ingredients, properly storing food in the best type of storage container and freezing food for later consumption.

adapted from earth911.com

For later:

Make a list of the books you'd like to read this winter, then share it with a friend.

Teachers: For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bit.ly/MPstandards. And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!

The Mini Page® © 2019 Universal Uclick

The **Mini Spy Booklets** (Volumes 1, 2 and 3) feature 48 of your favorite puzzles from The Mini Page!

Help Mini Spy and other classic characters from The Mini Page find hidden objects from a list of clues.

Each 8.5x11-inch booklet is just $4, plus $1 shipping and handling, for a **total of $5 each**.

Visit **MiniPageBooks.com**, or call **800-642-6480** for more information.

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The Herald-Palladium CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

La Porte
2 bedroom with off street parking. Tenant pays NIPSCO. $500.00 Deposit $125.00 Week. 219-363-5662

MICHIGAN CITY
2 bedroom upper stove/fridge included off street parking $625 a month plus utilities 219-877-8808

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LEGALS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT

EDUCATION/ TEACHING

Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher

River Valley School District Employment info at: www.rivervalley schools.org Deadline: January 24th or until filled

GENERAL HELP

Now Hiring
Full and Part Time Guards for outside security gate attendant in Michigan City/ Portage area. 1st and 2nd shift. Starting at $11.00 - $12.00 per hour. Call Matt at 574-514-7679. Perfect for retirees!!

SKILLED TRADE

Equipment Operator–
LaPorte County Gov't is currently seeking an Equipment Operator. This position is responsible for a variety of labor tasks and operating various machinery/equipment. Qualified applicants must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED and possess a Class B CDL, Class A is preferred and experience driving 10 speed manual transmission. Full job description and application are available at Human Resources, 555 Michigan Ave. Ste 101 or www.laportecounty.org/employment. EOE M/F/V/D

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Kalamazoo, MI

Journeyman Electrician

Kalsec® is the leading global producer of natural spice and herb flavor extracts, natural colors, natural antioxidants and advanced hop products that help food and beverage companies make their products look better, taste better and last longer... naturally. For over 50 years, we have added value to our Customer's brands by providing safe, reliable, innovative natural solutions while respecting the people and planet in which we interact.

Why Kalsec®?
We offer outstanding career opportunities for those striving to develop their talents in a family owned, globally focused company. We nurture a culture driven by creativity and innovation, while respecting an employee's desire for stability and a strong work/life balance.

Founded in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Kalsec® has delivered a brand built on honesty, integrity and trust that will keep us sustainable for the next 100 years. Continued growth of our business has resulted in offices worldwide including Asia, Europe, Mexico and North America.

Kalsec®, is currently seeking a highly talented Journeyman Electrician to join the I&E Maintenance team. The successful candidate will maintain production equipment operability by the installation, troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of the plant instrument and control systems and equipment.
Specific job functions include but are not limited to:
(1) Troubleshooting and repair of the plant PLC systems, including Allen Bradly and Opto22. (2) Troubleshooting and repair of 480VAC systems, including motors, motor control centers, VFDs, and panelboards. (3) Be able to read, interpret, and mark up for revision, P&ID, Electrical, and Loop drawings. (4) Adhere to the standard for arc flash protection as required in NFPA 70E. (5) Understand and implement the NFPA 70 National Electrical Code in an industrial setting as it applies to Class 1 Div. 1 hazardous locations.
The ideal candidate will possess advanced problem-solving skills including the ability to think critically about difficult challenges, determine the root cause of problems hindering production and Process Safety Management (PSM), and apply sound strategies to solve them through the Management of Change (MOC) process.
To be successful, the candidate must possess excellent communications skills, being able to clearly and effectively communicate with peers, other departments, and supervision spanning multiple shifts.
Requirements
• Journeyman Electrician state license (Industrial).
• Experience in troubleshooting with an understand of troubleshooting best practices for manufacturing systems and equipment.
• Must be able to read P&ID's, electrical diagrams/drawings, schematics, loop drawings, and electrical schedules.
• Experience with Class 1 Div. 1, Class 2 Div. 2, and Intrinsically Safe requirements.

Desired:
• Five (5) years of Journeyman Electrician experience.
• Three (3) years of instrumentation calibration.
• Well versed in good documentation recording practices.
• Background in CMMS systems and their function in the plant.
• Basic understanding of the requirements of Arc Flash.
• Basic understanding of Process Safety Management (PSM).
• Preferred background in Quality Assurance, Food Defense, and Safe Quality Foods.
• Well versed in the requirements of OSHA and MIOSHA as they apply to the Journeyman Electrician position. This includes Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO).
• Basic understanding of Computer software, MS Office, and MS Outlook.

Kalamazoo, MI

Instrumentation Technician

Kalsec® is the leading global producer of natural spice and herb flavor extracts, natural colors, natural antioxidants and advanced hop products that help food and beverage companies make their products look better, taste better and last longer... naturally. For over 50 years, we have added value to our Customer's brands by providing safe, reliable, innovative natural solutions while respecting the people and planet in which we interact.

Why Kalsec®?
We offer outstanding career opportunities for those striving to develop their talents in a family owned, globally focused company. We nurture a culture driven by creativity and innovation, while respecting an employee's desire for stability and a strong work/life balance.

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Kalsec®, is currently seeking a highly talented Instrument & Control technician to join the I&E Maintenance team. The successful candidate will maintain production equipment operability by the installation, troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of the plant PLC systems, including Allen Bradly and Opto22. (2) Troubleshooting and repair of plant instrumented systems. (3) Be able to read, interpret, and mark up for revision, P&ID, Electrical, and Loop drawings. (4) Calibration of gauges, transmitters, switches, and controllers in Class 1 Div. 1 hazardous locations. (5) Maintain NIST tracible documentation for all calibrations. (6) Test and document the safety instrumented function (SIF) of instruments.
The ideal candidate will possess advanced problem-solving skills including the ability to think critically about difficult challenges, determine the root cause of problems hindering production and Process Safety Management (PSM), and apply sound strategies to solve them through the Management of Change (MOC) process.
To be successful, the candidate must possess excellent communications skills, being able to clearly and effectively communicate with peers, other departments, and supervision spanning multiple shifts.
Requirements
• Associate degree in Instrument and (Process) Control (I&C) or equivalent.
• Experience with calibration and calibration best practices.
• Instrumentation experience, including but not limited to, transmitters, switches, indicators, gauges, PH, guided wave radar, sonar, and PLC interfacing.
• Well versed in instrumentation test equipment.
• Have a good understanding of the physical properties of flow, level, temperature, and pressure, and how these properties interact and affect instrumentation and processes.
• Experience in troubleshooting with an understand of troubleshooting best practices for manufacturing systems and equipment.
• Must be able to read P&ID's, electrical diagrams/drawings, schematics, and loop drawings.

Desired:
• Five (5) years of calibration experience.
• Five (5) years of troubleshooting instrumentation and process control systems.
• Well versed in good documentation recording practices.
• Background in CMMS systems and their function in the plant.
• Experience with Class 1 Div. 1, Class 2 Div. 2, and Intrinsically Safe requirements as it applies to instrumentation.
• Basic understanding of the requirements of Arc Flash.
• Basic understanding of Process Safety Management (PSM).
• Preferred background working with Quality Assurance, Food Defense, and Safe Quality Foods.
• Well versed in the requirements of OSHA and MIOSHA this includes Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO).
• Well versed in computer software, MS Office, and MS Outlook.

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

MERCHANDISE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Benton Harbor, MI
Bargain Tyme
2075 E Red Arrow Premium sheet vinyl. Black and white square 8 ft wide. $1.00 per ft. Also we have 13 ft 6 in for 14 ft mobile homes. $1.00 per ft. 15 ft 3 in for 16 ft mobile homes or large kitchens. $1.00 per ft 2 50 gal gas hot water heaters for mobile homes. $395.00 each 5 electric hot water heaters, 50 gal. $375.00 each

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

10 by 12 plush carpet, 5 colors. $40 each
12 by 20 plush carpets, $100 each.
Wood paneling $8.00 per panel.
White base board 5 in by 12 ft long. $25.00 each.
Doortrim 5 in 8 ft. $15.00
6 ft large glass show cases $100 each.
6 ft wide bubble wrap $.25 per ft.

BUILDING MATERIALS

LaPorte, IN
High heat bills
For Sale
Bubble Wrap Foil Insulation
100 ft Rolls
4' 5' 6' wide
Insulate your homes, pole barns, dog houses, etc.
Half price, will keep 97% of heat in home. cheap!!
219-324-0444

White Space Sells

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

Benton Harbor, MI
3 Pillars Music is looking to buy record albums from 1970s to present, rock CD's and music memorabilia. Please contact Tom at 269-313-7001 or 3pillarsmusic@gmail.com

La Porte, IN
We buy houses! Looking fixer uppers All Cash!
917-921-6016

Watervliet, MI
Buying junk Vehicles & Scrap Metal
Call Ray @
269-463-3565

PETS

CATS/DOGS/PETS

Coloma, MI
Puppies! 2 Registered Golden retriever males (800.00) and 2 Aussie/healer males (150.00) All health checked and vaccinated, ready to go home. Call or text 269-944-1294

CATS/DOGS/PETS

Goshen, IN
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Kingsford Height, IN
AKC Havanese, Companion, Female, 3 years old, Cream, loving,quiet, and calm. www.Ccarlins.com/Dogs.html for photos. (219) 344-0992

FARM

TRANSPORTATION

BERRIEN COUNTY DRAIN COMISSIONER STREED DRAIN #503
NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION

DATE: Thursday, January 16, 2020

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

LOCATION: Chikaming Township Hall 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Michigan 49115

QUESTIONS: (269) 815-4024

A Board of Determination will meet at the above date, time and location to hear all interested persons, receive evidence and determine whether the maintenance and improvement, as set forth in the petition dated June 25, 2019, is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare pursuant to Chapter 8 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended.

A presentation will be made to the Board of Determination outlining a brief history of the Drainage District and describing the roles, responsibilities and decisions to be made by the Board of Determination. The presentation is to provide background for landowners and municipalities in the Drainage District and facilitate the dissemination of information and the receipt of testimony of landowners in the Drainage District. The Board of Determination will make its decisions at the end of the meeting.

Proceedings conducted at this public meeting will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Berrien County Drain Commissioner's Office located at 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Drain Commissioner at the number listed above or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Anyone aggrieved by the decisions of the Board of Determination may seek judicial review pursuant to MCL 280.72a.

Christopher Quattrin
Berrien County Drain Commissioner

BERRIEN COUNTY DRAIN COMISSIONER UNION PIER# 535
NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION

DATE: Thursday, January 16, 2020

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

LOCATION: Chikaming Township Hall 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Michigan 49115

QUESTIONS: (269) 815-4024

A Board of Determination will meet at the above date, time and location to hear all interested persons, receive evidence and determine whether the maintenance and improvement, as set forth in the petition dated August 23, 2019, is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience, or welfare pursuant to Chapter 8 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended.

A presentation will be made to the Board of Determination outlining a brief history of the Drainage District and describing the roles, responsibilities and decisions to be made by the Board of Determination. The presentation is to provide background for landowners and municipalities in the Drainage District and facilitate the dissemination of information and the receipt of testimony of landowners in the Drainage District. The Board of Determination will make its decisions at the end of the meeting.

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Christopher Quattrin
Berrien County Drain Commissioner

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2
The situations you encounter this year will be complicated. Taking your time, living within your means and concentrating on what's important to you will bring the highest returns. Change may entice you, but ensure that what you plan to implement this year is within your means emotionally, financially and physically.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Refuse to let your emotions take charge when dealing with sensitive issues. Be a good listener, but don't interfere in someone else's business. Physical activity will help ease stress.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Review, reflect and prepare to move along. Put together a routine that includes fitness and a focus on diet, health and personal improvement. Romance is encouraged.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Do only what you want to do, not what everyone else wants. Change begins within. If you refuse to let others take advantage of you, you'll be able to pursue your dream.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Organize your life, and focus on what you want. You'll have to create opportunities if you're going to change your lifestyle. Don't overreact or wait for things to come to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Associate with people you know you can count on and share your thoughts and plans for the future. Suggestions will motivate you to turn your dream into a reality.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Embrace the new year with a bold attitude. Prepare to rid yourself of troubling situations and people so you can focus on what matters to you. Personal growth is favored.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Find out what's required for you to follow through with your plans. Knowledge is power and will contribute to the confidence needed to reach your goal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Review what transpired last year and use your experiences to your advantage. It's up to you to focus on success and how best to make your goal a reality.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be the master of your life. Speak up, make your intentions clear and bring about the changes that will make you happy. Don't wait for an opportunity to find you. Take action.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Face facts, make adjustments and prepare to move forward. Let go of what isn't working for you, and focus on what will bring you greater comfort and joy. Romance is featured.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Head in a direction that offers adventure, excitement and a new beginning. Deal with and let go of problems that hold you back. Choose the life you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Keep life simple, stay focused and map out a plan that will not only help you get ahead, but will satisfy your soul as well. Romance is in the stars.

MAKE SOME MONEY

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!

BUSINESS & SERVICE GUIDE

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That's Racin'

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NASCAR Chairman and CEO Jim France on the passing of **Junior Johnson**: "He truly was the 'Last American Hero.' From his early days running moonshine through the end of his life, Junior wholly embodied the NASCAR spirit. He was an inaugural NASCAR Hall of Famer, a nod to an extraordinary career as both a driver and team owner. The entire NASCAR family is saddened by the loss of a true giant of our sport, and we offer our deepest condolences to Junior's family and friends during this difficult time."

Go online and check out thatsracin.com for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily.

CHRIS GRAYTHEN FOR NASCAR

Martin Truex Jr., driver of the #19 Bass Pro Shops Toyota, celebrates after winning the Cup Series South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway last September, one of his seven wins on the season on the way to runner-up in the Cup Championship. Will he have continued success with new crew chief James Small, replacing Cole Pearn?

Adding some context to NASCAR news of late

New sponsorship model

The news: NASCAR announced earlier this month it will move away from a single-entity title sponsorship model to have four separate premium sponsors. The four sponsors — Busch Beer, Coca-Cola, Geico and Xfinity — take over from Monster Energy, which was the primary sponsor since 2017.

What it means: For starters, Cup race winners won't be followed around by Energy's scantily clad "Monster Girls" any more. More to the point, the sport's top series won't be identified for a single, recognizable sponsor's name as it has been in the past (Winston, Nextel, Sprint). Instead, each of the four new premium sponsors will have their own presence at every Cup race, including the All-Star race at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

What will the top series be called now? The NASCAR Cup Series.

Change for Truex Jr.

The news: Martin Truex Jr. gets a new crew chief.

What it means: Truex has been arguably the Cup Series' most consistent driver over the past five seasons, during which he's won 24 races, advanced to the championship round four times and claimed the 2017 championship. Much of that was due to Truex's partnership with crew chief Cole Pearn.

Pearn, however, resigned earlier this month to pursue other opportunities and spend more time with his family. That broke up a driver-crew chief combo that rivaled other recent ultra-successful pairings, including Jimmie Johnson-Chad Knaus, Kyle Busch-Adam Stevens and Kevin Harvick-Rodney Childers.

Small

A good thing doesn't last forever. Johnson and Knaus, for instance, broke up after the 2018 season. And now it's Truex's turn to learn how to work with a new crew chief. James Small, an Australian who was lead engineer for Truex's No. 19 Toyota last season, takes over.

"I know James well and feel very comfortable with him," Truex said. "I feel like we approach racing very similar. He and Cole (Pearn) have a lot of similarities. It's a natural fit and I'm really excited about it. I think he'll do a great job."

Deegan

Ford signs Hailie Deegan

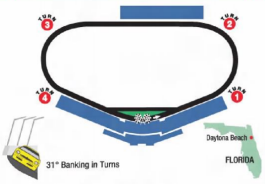
The news: Hailie Deegan, an 18-year-old Californian who won three races on NASCAR's K&N Pro West Series this past season, has been added to Ford's driver development program.

What it means: Deegan, the first woman to win a race in the K&N Pro West Series (now called the ARCE Menards Series West), says she has potentially a clearer path to NASCAR's national series now that she's with Ford.

And that would mean NASCAR might have another woman driving in either the Truck, Xfinity or Cup series, sooner rather than later, something that would be great for NASCAR.

— David Scott, Charlotte Observer

NEXT RACE



DAYTONA 500

Distance: 200 laps, or 500 miles.
Where: Daytona International Speedway, a 2.5-mile, asphalt tri-oval in Daytona Beach, Fla.
When: 2:30 p.m. ET Sunday, Feb. 16, 2020. **TV:** FOX
Radio: Motor Racing Network.
Last year's winner: Denny Hamlin.
Top 10 little known facts:

Hamlin

1. The inaugural Rolex 24 at Daytona was actually just a three-hour, 82-lap race.

2. Daytona is the largest lighted sports facility in North America, with over 2,000 lights installed since the first night race in 1998.

3. George W. Bush is the only person to have served as Grand Marshal for both the Daytona 500 and the Coke Zero 400.

4. The Pontiac Trans-Am is the most-used Daytona 500 Pace Car, having made 13 appearances in the Great American Race.

5. The Harley J. Earl Daytona 500 trophy is named for the General Motors designer who built the first-ever concept car, also known as the "Father of the Corvette" and served as NASCAR's second commissioner.

6. Roy Ogletree established a Guinness world record for most miles traveled by Jet Ski in 24 hours, circling the lake for 900 laps or 1,080 miles during the Rolex 24 in 2009.

7. In 1982, Bobby Allison became the first and so far, only, driver to win the Sprint Unlimited, Daytona 500 and Coke Zero 400 in the same season.

8. Two full Disneylands would fit inside Daytona International Speedway's 180-acre infield.

9. A record six women qualified for the 2010 Lucas Oil 200 in the ARCA Racing Series at Daytona International Speedway.

10. You can see the Atlantic Ocean from the top rows of the 400 level of the new stadium.

2019 MONSTER FINAL STANDINGS

*Top 20 + **champion**, as of Nov. 17*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kyle Busch #18	**5040**	11 William Byron #24	2274
2 Martin Truex Jr #19	5035	12 Alex Bowman #88	2257
3 Kevin Harvick #4	5033	13 Kurt Busch #1	2237
4 Denny Hamlin #11	5027	14 Aric Almirola #10	2234
5 Joey Logano #22	2380	15 Ryan Newman #6	2219
6 Ryan Blaney #12	2339	16 Erik Jones #20	2194
7 Kyle Larson #42	2339	17 Daniel Suarez #41	846
8 Brad Keselowski #2	2318	18 Jimmie Johnson #48	835
9 Clint Bowyer #14	2290	19 Paul Menard #21	777
10 Chase Elliott #9	2275	20 Chris Buescher #37	729

2019 XFINITY FINAL STANDINGS

*Top 20 + **champion**, as of Nov. 16*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Tyler Reddick #2	**4040**	11 Ryan Sieg #39	2171
2 Cole Custer #0	4035	12 Justin Haley #11	2155
3 Christopher Bell #20	4032	13 Gray Gaulding #8	713
4 Justin Allgaier #7	4023	14 Jer Clements #51	669
5 Chase Briscoe #98	2302	15 Brandon Brown #68	574
6 Austin Cindric #22	2294	16 Ray Black Jr #7	547
7 J.H. Nemechek #23	2253	17 Josh Williams #36	527
8 Noah Gragson #9	2246	18 Stephen Leicht #1	449
9 Michael Annett #1	2239	19 Garrett Smithley #0	443
10 Brandon Jones #19	2207	20 BJ McLeod #4	425

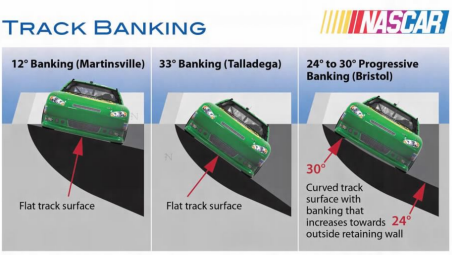
2019 TRUCKS FINAL STANDINGS

*Top 10 + **champion**, as of Nov. 15*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Matt Crafton #88	**4035**	6 Johnny Sauter #13	2238
2 Ross Chastain #45	4033	7 Grant Enfinger #98	2236
3 Brett Moffitt #24	4032	8 Tyler Ankrum #17	2182
4 Stewart Friesen #52	4026	9 Ben Rhodes #99	773
5 Austin Hill #16	2298	10 Sheldon Creed #2	726

AERODYNAMICS AND DRAFTING

TRACK BANKING



Most oval NASCAR tracks are banked at various degrees to create greater momentum and velocity through the turns. Banking on the 23 tracks that host NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races range from a relatively steep 36 degrees at Talladega Superspeedway, to a somewhat flat 12 degrees at Martinsville Speedway.

"Progressively banked" oval tracks, such as Bristol Motor Speedway, feature a racing surface that gradually increases in degrees of banking – 24 to 30 degrees – as the track gets closer to the outside retaining wall. This permits cars in the longer outside lanes to maintain higher speeds through the corners than those in the shorter inside lanes, resulting in more competitive racing.

Source: NASCAR

Aerodynamics
Study of airflow in regard to a stock car.

Downforce
Downforce can be altered to improve the car's grip or traction by adjusting the spoiler as well as other aerodynamic changes to the car and its setup. As downforce is increased, the grip/traction is increased as well as tire wear. Increasing downforce comes at the expense of creating more drag, which will reduce fuel efficiency.

Draft
The aerodynamic effect that allows two or more cars traveling nose to tail to run faster than a single car. When one car follows another closely, the one in front punches through the air and provides a cleaner, less resistant path for the trailing cars.

Drag
The resistance a car experiences when passing through air at high speeds.

Drafting
The practice of two or more cars running nose to tail to create more speed for the group. The lead car displaces the air in front of it, creates a vacuum effect between its rear end and the nose of the second car and pulls the trailing car along with it with less overall resistance. Two or more cars drafting will travel faster than a single car.

hp ENTERTAINMENT

PEOPLE OF THE GUIDE

'Music for Memories'

Richard Schwartz known for playing favorites over the last 50 years

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

Don Campbell / HP file photo

Richard Schwartz entertains the crowd during the opening of the 2019 Brown Bag Concert Series on June 26 at the John E.N. Howard Bandshell in St. Joseph. The St. Joseph-based musician can be found often playing at Chocolate Cafe.

Music has always been a way for people to remember important moments in their lives.

Richard Schwartz of St. Joseph has used this phenomenon during performances at venues throughout Southwest Michigan during the last 50 years.

"When someone comes up to me and mentions a song that 'made me remember my dad singing that when I was a little girl,' or 'I sang that song to my children putting them to bed,' or 'my daughter sings that song' – that feeling when I hit someone's memory, and then they share that with me – it makes me bubbly inside, and happy I picked that song," he said. "Songs hit their memory bank, and that's very special to me."

Schwartz calls it "Music for Memories," bringing in pop and country hits from the 1950s, '60s, '70s and '80s.

"I've got quite a repertoire from songs I liked when I was going through those decades. That's my main base of songs," he said. "People will also ask for songs and I'll research it, and try to bring that song into my repertoire. Someone wanted it, so someone else might want it, too."

Schwartz has played at about 25 Brown Bag Concert Series concerts in St. Joseph, some Hartford and Shoreham concerts in the park, PACE of Southwest Michigan, various pageants and Twelve Corners Winery. The Chocolate Cafe and The Whitcomb have him back on a regular basis. In addition, he plays regularly at his church.

He said singing and playing guitar for folks at PACE or The Whitcomb is very special for him.

"I love to sing real 'oldie goldies' for the retirement age group, as they sing along readily, and the songs bring so many smiles to their faces," Schwartz said.

He also enjoys a more intimate crowd.

"I can interact a little bit more because I'm in close proximity, so we can have a back and fourth," he said.

When it comes to the energy level for his performances, he bases it on the crowd's energy – like being more reserved and relaxed at The Whitcomb.

"At PACE, maybe it's because those people have come in for activities, they tend to be a livelier group," he said. "So I'm a little more high energy. I bump it up a little bit. You can see people interacting with me, and that pumps me up a little bit more."

Schwartz grew up in a family that was musical and a Lutheran school that made music special.

"I really had a desire to sing and love music," he said. "My mom played piano, my dad played guitar and harmonica, and on Saturday nights we actually sat around the piano and sang as a family. That peaked my interest. When we'd go on road trips, we'd put the guitar in the car and have singalongs as we went."

Originally from Milwaukee, being a Lutheran school teacher brought him to Southwest Michigan to teach at Grace Lutheran School in St. Joseph. He taught there for five years before transitioning into another position.

When he's not performing, he's traveling to visit his four children, eight grandchildren, mother and brothers.

"I donate time to some various groups at my church. I also do some painting of houses," Schwartz said. "I like to do things that are interacting with people."

While the winter months are more quiet for Schwartz, he'll be back with monthly performances at The Whitcomb starting again this month.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

Silver Beach Carousel celebrates 10th birthday

Don Campbell / HP file photo

The Silver Beach Carousel will celebrate its 10th birthday with four days of fun, starting today.

ST. JOSEPH — It's been 10 years since the Silver Beach Carousel made its return to St. Joseph, so a birthday celebration is in order.

Starting today and continuing through Sunday, visitors to the carousel can get 50-cent popcorn, throwback pricing, and photo-ops with the "Birthday Hippo."

The hippo is one of the public art figures that was in downtown St. Joseph. It was decorated by a local artist in a birthday theme.

Other events and giveaways throughout the weekend include drawings, blinky rings and surprise prize rides.

The carousel's hours this weekend are 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. today, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.

Silver Beach Carousel, 333 Broad St., had its first riders during a special event on Dec. 31, 2009, and opened to the public, along with the whole Silver Beach Center, on Jan. 2, 2010.

The carousel is an ode to the one at the former Silver Beach Amusement Park, and took a team of volunteers 13 years to open.

For more info about the party, visit the Silver Beach Carousel's Facebook page or www.silverbeachcarousel.com.

Photo provided / Brian Kelly

Brian Vander Ark returns to The Livery on Friday night.

Brian Vander Ark kicks off his 2020 at The Livery

BENTON HARBOR — The lead singer for the multi-platinum West Michigan alternative rock band The Verve Pipe is returning to The Livery, 190 Fifth St.

"An Evening with Brian Vander Ark" will begin at 8 p.m. Friday in what is being described as a rare solo performance.

Vander Ark, a Grand Rapids resident, has had a successful solo career apart from The Verve Pipe, which includes four studio albums. He also released an album of songs written with actor/musician Jeff Daniels in 2017.

In 2007, he created the Lawn Chairs and Living Rooms House Concert Series, and has played more than 700 shows in his fans' homes.

Photo provided

Jack Adams wraps up his 100-day, 100-breweries tour on Saturday at Sister Lakes Brewing.

The Verve Pipe's hits "Photograph" and "The Freshmen," were staples of the mid-1990s, with the band regrouping in 2009. Its next performance is in February in Detroit.

Doors open at 7 p.m.

Tickets are $20, and are available online at liverybrew.com.

For more information, call 925-8760.

Vander Ark is accepting song requests on his Facebook page, The Verve Pipe's Facebook page, and by email at info@brianvanderark.com.

Jack Adams concludes brewery tour Saturday

DOWAGIAC — One hundred breweries later, St. Joe Jack will end his brewery tour this weekend in Dowagiac.

See WEEKEND, page D4

IN BRIEF

The Box announces new hours

ST. JOESPH — The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., will begin its limited gallery hours today.

From now through March, the galleries will be open from noon-4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, and closed on Sundays and Mondays.

The galleries will be open for extended hours during special events.

Access to the building's tenants, artist studios and classes will be available through the Riverwalk entrance during normal business hours or by appointment.

In case of inclement weather, the Box will be closed when St. Joseph schools are closed.

For more information, email board@boxfactoryforthearts.org.

Tickets on sale for TCP's 'Savannah Sipping Society'

ST. JOSEPH — Tickets are now on sale for the Twin City Players' production of "The Savannah Sipping Society."

Tickets for the comedy are $12-$15, and can be purchased online at twincityplayers.org or by calling 429-0400.

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 7-8, 14-15; and 2 p.m. Feb. 2, 9 and 16 at the TCP Playhouse, 600 W. Glenlord Road.

On opening night, patrons are invited to join the cast and crew after the show for an afterglow reception featuring refreshments from Lemon Creek Winery and Bit of Swiss Pastry Shoppe.

In the show, directed by Kelly Carlin, four Southern women needing to escape the sameness of their day-to-day routines are drawn together by fate – and an impromptu happy hour – and decide it's time to reclaim the enthusiasm for life they've lost through the years.

Over six months, filled with laughter, misadventures and the occasional liquid refreshment, they find the confidence to jumpstart their new lives. Together, they discover lasting friendships and a renewed determination to live in the moment.

Prime Time TV

THURSDAY EVENING JAN. 2

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC (7) (13) (41) (57)	Wheel of Fortune	What Is Jeopardy!? Alex Trebek		The Great American Baking Show: Holiday Edition The winner is announced.			
CBS (2) (3) (22)	Ent. Tonight	Young Sheldon	31 Young Sheldon	01 Mom	Car-ol's-Act	Evil "2 Fathers"	
NBC (5) (8) (16)	Ac. Holly-wood	Super-store	Super-store	Paley Center Salutes Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	
FOX (17) (22) (28) (32)	Modern Family	Last Man Standing (DVS)		Deputy Bill Hollister becomes LA's sheriff.		01 Fox 17 News at 10:00PM	
PBS (34)	Radar-Mich-igan	Little Women on Masterpiece		Father Brown "The Penitent Man"		Antiques Roadshow "St. Louis"	
CW (25)	Big Bang Theory	Supernatural "Back and to the Future"		Legacies "This Year Will Be Different"		News	Seinfeld
MNT (50)	Family Feud	AHL Hockey Texas Stars at Chicago Wolves. From Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill. (N) (L)					
WCIU (26)	Mike & Molly	Supernatural "Back and to the Future"		Legacies "This Year Will Be Different"		2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls
WHME (46)	00 Heart-land	Heartland Peter's announcement.		Highway to Heaven		The List (N)	Celebrity Page (N)
WGN (9)	News	black-ish	black-ish	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L)	
A&E	First 48: Cold	The First 48 "Taken" (N)		The First 48 "Down a Dark Hallway" (N)		60 Days In "Should Have Stayed a Fan"	
AMC	Home Alone 2	★★★ Ghostbusters ('84) Bill Murray. Four paranormal investigators battle mischievous ghouls.		Legacies "This Year Will Be Different"		2 Broke Girls	Ghost-busters II
Animal	Tree	Jeremy Wade		Jeremy Wade's Dark		Jeremy Wade's Dark	
BET	6:00 BET Star Cinema			★ Baggage Claim ('13) Paula Patton.			
Big Ten	College Basketball			Postgame	Campus	BTN Live	B1G
Bravo	Project Runway The designers create party dresses.			Project Runway The designers recycle donated clothing. (N)			House-wives
Cartoon	Apple	American	American	Burgers	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy
Cinemax	Black Knight	★★ Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again ('18) Amanda Seyfried, Lily James.				9:55 What's Your Number? ('11)	
CMT	Last Man	★ The Best of Me ('14) Michelle Monaghan.					The Vow
CNBC	Shark	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Anderson Cooper		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office
Discovery	Home-stead	Homestead Rescue (N)				02 Homestead Res-cue (N)	
Disney	Bunk'd	Raven	Just Roll	Gabby	Jessie	Coop	Sydney
DIY	Rehab	Salvage	Salvage	Salvage	Salvage	Salvage	Salvage
E!	Botched	Botched	Botched	Botched			Nightly
ESPN	College Football TaxSlayer Gator Bowl -- Indiana vs Tennessee.						SportsC.
ESPN2	High School Football			College Basketball Oregon at Colorado. (N)			
ESPNC	00 College Football Rose Bowl.			College Football From Dec. 5, 2009.			
Food	Restaur	Restaurant: Im.		Restaurant: Im.		Beat Flay	Beat Flay
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N)		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	Basket	Focused	Spotlight	Michigan	Oakland	Pistons	Basket
Freeform	6:15 ★★★ Despica-ble Me 2			:25 ★★ The Game Plan ('07, Children's) Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Madison Pettis.			
FX	The Mar-tian ('15)	★★ Pitch Perfect 2 ('15) Anna Kendrick. The Barden Bellas compete at the world championships.					★ Bay-watch
Golf	PGA Golf					Golf Central (N)	
Hallmark	A Christ-mas L	12 Gifts of Christmas ('15, Romance) Katrina Law, Aaron O'Connell.				Miss Christmas ('17) Brooke D'Orsay.	
HBO	Day-To-morrow	★★ Breakthrough ('19, Drama) Chrissy Metz, Josh Lucas. (P).		★★★ Les Misérables ('12)			
History	Pickers	American Pickers		American Pickers (N)		03 American Pickers	
HGTV	Flip	Flip	Flip	Christina	Flip	Flip	Flip
Learning	Dr. Pim	Dr. Pimple Popper:		Dr. Pimple Popper		Feet-Killing Me	
Lifetime	Surviving R. Kelly	Surviving R. Kelly "Black Girls Matter"		Surviving R. Kelly		05 Surviving R. Kelly (N)	
MSNBC	Hardball	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Floribama Shore (N)			01 Ex on the Beach		Catfish: The TV	
NBCSCH	Bulls	NBA Basketball Utah Jazz at Chicago Bulls. (N)					Postgame
NFL	NFL Total	NFL Football Teams TBA.					
Nick	Sponge.	Sponge.	Sponge.	★★★ Paddington ('14)			
NGEO	Troopers	Alaska-Trooper		Alaska-Trooper		Alaska-Trooper	
Oxygen	00 Snapped	An Unexpected Killer "Killer in Plain Sight"		Snapped "Cynthia Coates"		Snapped "Doretta Schiefield"	
Parmt	00 ★★ White House Down ('13, Action)					White House Down	
Showtime	Shameless	★★★ Green Book ('18) Viggo Mortensen, Mahershala Ali.				10 The L Word: Gen-eration Q	
Starz	6:07 ★★★ The Aviator ('04) Leonardo DiCaprio.			★★ Hulk ('03, Fantasy) Eric Bana, Jennifer Connelly, Sam Elliott.			
STZENC	6:55 ★★★ No Country for Old Men ('07)			★★★ The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo ('11) Daniel Craig, Rooney Mara.			
SyFy	Planet of the Apes	:15 ★★★ Star Trek ('09) Chris Pine. (P). Chronicles the early days of the starship Enterprise and her crew.					
TBS	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory
TCM	Trea-sure-Sierra	★★★ Road to Morocco ('42) Bing Crosby.		★★★ Road to Utopia ('45) Bing Crosby.			
TMC	I'll Take Dead	★★ Mile 22 ('18) Mark Wahlberg, Lauren Cohan.		:35 ★ Bangkok Dangerous ('08) Nicolas Cage.			
TNT	00 Bones	★★★ Cast Away ('00) Tom Hanks, Helen Hunt.					
Travel	Ghost	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King
USA	00 NCIS	NCIS "Scope"		NCIS "Keep Your Friends Close"		NCIS A deal is struck with a murderer.	
VH1	Get Rich	★★★ Training Day ('01) Denzel Washington.					Baby Boy
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing

After Mediterranean honeymoon, man refuses to live with wife

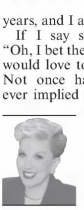
DEAR ABBY: My heart is breaking for my friend who was married just a month and a half ago. She and her husband went on a two-week Mediterranean cruise for their honeymoon. They have not lived together since then. Her husband says he loves her, and I know she loves him, but he has no immediate plans to live with her! She's heartbroken and is planning an annulment. What advice do you have? – Thrown In Maryland

DEAR THROWN: I wish you had shared a few more details about their situation. I'm surprised your friend wasn't aware of her husband's feelings before she married him.

However, as sympathetic as you are about her situation, my advice is to be there for her to lean on but refrain from giving her advice. She's going to have to figure this out for herself. Some couples do better if they live separately. But if what her husband has in mind was a surprise and is unacceptable to her, she is doing the right thing.

DEAR ABBY: I'm not sure if anyone else has this problem. My husband is constantly grabbing me, either my breasts or my crotch. It's day and night. We have been married almost 40 years, and I am sick of it.

If I say something, he says, "Oh, I bet the guys you work with would love to be touching you!" Not once have my co-workers ever implied such a thing. I just don't understand! Any suggestions on how I can make him understand I hate this? – Groped Out West



Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

DEAR GROPED: Your husband may consider what he's doing as foreplay or regard you not as a person but his property. Touching someone in this manner without consent could be considered sexual abuse. His comment about your male co-workers may be a back-handed compliment, but why you are sick of hearing it is understandable.

If he doesn't understand after 40 years that you dislike what he's doing, it's because he doesn't want to, and your feelings are unimportant to him. A marriage counselor may be able to help you get through to him. If he won't go, go without him.

DEAR ABBY: I am 59 years old with a good job. I have a pleasant personality, and I have been told I am attractive. I would love to find someone who would be a very good friend or maybe even a love connection.

The problem is, I wear partials because some of my teeth are missing. I'm very attractive with them in, but I'm afraid if I tell a man I have them, he won't regard me as attractive anymore. Should I withhold that information until further down the line?

Please advise me because this is holding me back on trying to have a relationship. I don't want to remain lonely because of this. – Ready For Something In D.C.

DEAR READY: You state that you have a good job. If all that's holding you back from finding a partner is embarrassment about your dentures, contact a dentist and ask if there are other options, such as implants, that might be a solution for you. If there are, it will give you the boost of confidence you are seeking. If not, keep in mind that if you are dating the right man in your age group or older, he shouldn't have as much a problem with your teeth as you fear.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Opting out of the Mommy Wars

Adapted from a recent online discussion.

DEAR CAROLYN: I am a stay-at-home mom of three children – 9, 7 and 4. My brother and his wife had their first baby three months ago.

Before the baby was born, my sister-in-law, "Sue," told me she was thinking of staying home full time and asked me to share any thoughts and tips I had.

I spent the next few months introducing her to other moms in my local SAHM community and offering up every piece of advice I had so she would feel supported if she joined in. I really would have loved to have Sue become a permanent part of our community.

She announced last week she's going back to work and leaving the baby with a nanny for "a variety of reasons" (not financial).

For some reason, I am feeling very hurt. I really threw myself into trying to welcome her into SAHM life, and I feel she surveyed the resources I showed her and decided they simply weren't good enough.

Worse, I feel she is judging me in a way she didn't before, now that she has met my friends and knows more about my daily life.

How to get past these feelings? I *hate* the idea of being part of the so-called "mommy wars," and resenting a beloved sister-in-law just because she is a working mom and I'm not. But I feel a little seed of that starting to grow and I need to get past it. – Hurt

Carolyn Hax

DEAR HURT: This has nothing to do with you.

She asked for your help, and you gave it, and you made her decision a more informed one. Good stuff.

In fact, if your information helped her to recognize that being home full time wasn't a good fit for her, then you did this family a huge favor, all of them.

That she chose a path different from yours says nothing about the validity of either path.

I didn't choose to become a lawyer after extensive research, including through some of my closest friends; I don't fancy myself too good to be a lawyer! I don't think lawyers are beneath me, and I'm not opposing them in a cosmic Us vs. Them, Lawyers vs. Writers, Worky Wars death match.

This is a "mommy war" only if you make it one. Don't make it one.

Instead, congratulate Sue on working so hard to make an informed choice, and be grateful you live at a time when you *have* choices.

And if I caught your harrumphing between the lines in "leaving the baby with a nanny," then everyone who knows you will, too. Just stop.

"Because she wants to" is reason enough, and it doesn't mean such parents don't love their children as much as others and it doesn't mean they look down on you for your choices. It means the adults involved have agency and aren't afraid to use it. Repeat as needed till there's a truce for the war in your head.

And whenever you can choose not to take offense, please do.

REGARDING "GOING BACK TO WORK": So is your brother. He also had a choice to stay home and he didn't take it. But I bet that doesn't bother you. – Anonymous

DEAR ANONYMOUS: See, I missed that. Completely. I've got work to do myself.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

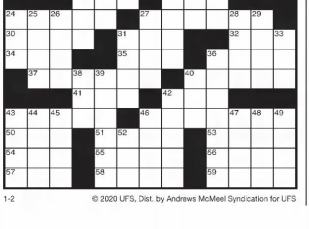
Crossword

ACROSS
1 Polar bear perch
5 Diamond Head site
9 Carp
12 Verdi's princess
13 Reynolds or Gosling
14 Flow back
15 Slue
16 Radar spot
17 Bakery item
18 Vienna's locale
20 Rubber tree sap
22 Collide with
23 Carry with difficulty
24 Clad like a superhero
27 Colombia's capital
30 Turing or Ladd
31 Beach top
32 Conflict
34 Dowel
35 — -com
36 Salmon variety
37 Forgo
40 Name for a cow
41 Cat's foot
42 Chat
43 Absorb data
46 Souvenir
50 Small business mag
51 Low-cal
53 Muddy the waters
54 Wood ash product
55 Latin 101 word
56 Ocean bird
57 Youngster
58 Genteel one
59 The Banana Boat Song (hyph.)

DOWN
1 Horse bean
2 Place
3 Works by Keats
4 Made of clay
5 Planet's course
6 Jean Auel heroine
7 "Ball —"
8 Disconnect
9 Hung on to
10 NYC theater award
11 Wild goat
19 Unbuckle
21 In the past
23 Potting soil
24 Ford product
25 Succulent plant
26 Walks softly
27 Sometimes furrowed feature
28 Rarely seen bills
29 Pleased sighs
31 Sleep, as tea
33 Trigger's rider
36 Cringed
38 Paramed-ic's skill
39 Back con-temporary
40 Thud
42 Pier
43 Cheerful one
44 New Age singer
45 Made a hole in one
46 Viking quaff
47 Mrs. Charles
48 Very little
49 Fake butter
52 Novelist — Levin

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	U	L	T		L	I	V	Y		V	I	C
O	H	I	O		A	C	H	E		A	V	E
P	O	M	P		D	E	F	L	A	T	E	D
S	H	O	P	P	E	D		P	O	S	S	E
			L	E	D		D	E	F			
H	O	M	E	R		W	I	D	T	H	S	
E	S	E		U	P	O	N		A	M	E	N
M	I	L	L	E		Y	E	T	I		O	R	O
	O	T	T	E	R	S		L	A	S	E	R
T	H	I	E		O	K	E	S				
V	A	L	E	T		J	U	S	T	I	C	E
O	V	E	R	H	E	A	T		E	N	I	D
I	O	N		E	M	I	R		R	I	T	A
D	N	A		R	U	L	E		S	T	E	M



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Jumble

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ROYSR

VAHYE

CODAIZ

RITEAD

You're insane! Put that on! It will save your life, and it's the law!
Why does it bug you so much? I've never worn one and I never will.
HE REFUSED TO WEAR HIS SEAT BELT WHEN BEHIND THE WHEEL, AND THAT ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @tmsjumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GRAVY WIPER PREFIX BANNER
Answer: When he proposed to her on December 31, they were able to — RING IN THE NEW YEAR

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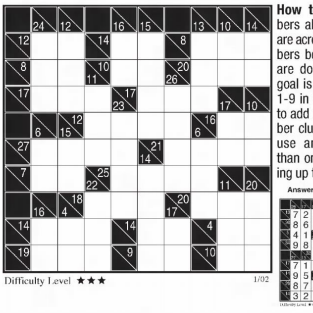
Kakuro



How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Answer to previous puzzle

7	2	3	1	9	7	6	1	
8	6	9	7	8	9	7	2	
4	1	2	5	6	2	1	3	
9	8	7	4	6	3	9	8	5
2	5	8	9	7	6	2	1	3
7	1	9	6	4	3	5	1	2
6	9	5	2	9	8	3	5	
8	7	5	9	3	7	2	3	1
3	2	1	8	5	9	8	7	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/02

Bridge

Albert Einstein said, "I think and think for months, for years. Ninety-nine times, the conclusion is false. The hundredth time I am right."

At the bridge table, it is most enjoyable to give an opponent a false picture of how the cards are distributed, persuading him to go down in a contract that he seemed destined to make.

Here is an example, for which Pablo Ravenna won the Gidwani Family Trust Defence of the Year award last year. The journalist prize went to Ana Roth and Fernando Lema. They all live in Argentina.

Marcos Thoma (East) opened one club, which was either natural or any balanced hand with 12-14 or 18-19 points. West's double was negative, promising hearts.

Ravenna (West) led the club ace, then shifted to the spade two to cut down declarer's heart ruffs. South took East's queen with his ace and played his remaining club. When West smoothly discarded a heart, declarer was convinced that West had begun with a singleton trump.

To make the contract at this point, South had to lead a heart to his ace, ruff a heart and play a club, discarding his last heart. Instead, South continued with a club, ruffed in hand. West kept up his brilliant defense by discarding another heart. Now declarer cashed the heart ace, ruffed a heart and played a club, pitching his third heart. However, West also threw his last heart, so when East played the heart king, and South ruffed, West overruffed, scoring his spade jack after all. Then a diamond to the queen defeated the contract.

North 01-02-20
♠ 9 8
♥ J
♦ 10 5 2
♣ K J 10 9 7 6 5

West
♠ J 7 2
♥ 8 7 6 5 3
♦ 9 8 7 4 3
♣ A

East
♠ Q 4
♥ K Q 9 2
♦ A K Q 6
♣ Q 8 4

South
♠ A K 10 7 6 5 3
♥ A 10 4
♦ J
♣ 3 2

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1♠	Dbl.	Pass	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: ♣ A

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Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

4			3					
				4	5	8	9	
			9	1		4		7
3		1				5		
2				8				4
		9				7		2
9		7		2	1			
	6	8	4	3				
					9			1

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

6	5	8	1	9	2	4	3	7
4	3	1	6	8	7	5	9	2
2	9	7	5	3	4	6	1	8
3	1	5	7	6	8	9	2	4
7	2	4	9	1	5	3	8	6
9	8	6	4	2	3	1	7	5
1	4	2	8	5	9	7	6	3
8	7	9	3	4	6	2	5	1
5	6	3	2	7	1	8	4	9

THE GUIDE

TODAY

Silver Beach Carousel 10th Birthday Party: 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Silver Beach Carousel, 333 Broad St., St. Joseph; 932-1141 or www.silverbeachcarousel.com

Comedy Night: 9 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

FRIDAY

The Backsliders: 6 p.m., Vineyard 2121 Winery & Tasting Room, 4110 Red Arrow Highway, Benton Harbor; free; 849-0109 or www.vineyard2121.com

Checkmark Sallie: 7-10 p.m., Wegners Lakeside Bar & Grill, 2628 Lake Shore Drive, Niles; 683-1558 or wegners-lakeside-bar-grill.business.site

Brian Vander Ark: 8 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; $20; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

Steve Michaels: 8-11 p.m., Iron Shoe Distillery, 3 N. Third St., Niles; 262-0454 or www.ironshoedistillery.com

DJ Jellie Bean: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

Silver Beach Carousel 10th Birthday Party: 11 a.m.-8 p.m., see today

SATURDAY

Jack Adams: 8-11 p.m., Sister Lakes Brewing Co., 92500 CR 690, Dowagiac; 332-5135 or sisterlakesbrewing.com

Deerfield Run: 8:30 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; $10 suggested admission; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

Amarillo Sky: 10 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

Project 90: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Jellie Bean: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ J Remy: 10 p.m.-2:30 a.m., Jay's Lounge, 3025 S. 11th St., Niles; 684-8353

Silver Beach Carousel 10th Birthday Party: 11 a.m.-8 p.m., see today

SUNDAY

Chris Behre: 2:30-5:30 p.m., Dablon Vineyards, 111 W. Shawnee Road, Baroda; free; 422-2846 or www.dablon.com

Twin City String Band with Sali Halliday: 3-5 p.m., Forte Coffee, 2045 Niles Road, St. Joseph; 769-0050 or www.forte.coffee

Whateverly Brothers: 3-7 p.m., Wegners Lakeside Bar & Grill, 2628 Lake Shore Drive, Niles; 683-1558 or wegners-lakeside-bar-grill.business.site

Silver Beach Carousel 10th Birthday Party: 11 a.m.-5 p.m., see today

MONDAY

New Territory Arts Association open stage with Leslie Sypian: 7 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; free; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

JAN. 9

Dan Reisen: 7 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

Eric Peter Schwartz: 7:30 p.m., The Stray Dog Bar & Grill, 245 N. Whittaker St., New Buffalo; 469-2727 or www.thestraydog.com

JAN. 10

Steve Michael: 7-10 p.m., Harbor Light Brewery, 516 Phoenix St., South Haven; 299-7760 or www.harborlightbrewing.com

Genius Night: 7:15 p.m., Elsie Earl Studios, 200 W. Buffalo St., New Buffalo; free; 734-646-6633 or www.elsieearlstudios.com

Dave Van Dyke: 8-11 p.m., Iron Shoe Distillery, 3 N. Third St., Niles; 262-0454 or www.ironshoedistillery.com

Medicinal Groove: 8:30 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; $10 suggested admission; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

Voltz: 10 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

Feel Good: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Jesse: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

JAN. 11

Brooklyn Charmers (Steely Dan tribute): 8 p.m., The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks; $30; 756-3879 or www.acornlive.org

I Am Band: 8:30 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; $10; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

One Love Reggae Band: 10 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

HiFi Superstar: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Chris: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Bash Beats: 10 p.m.-2 a.m., Tonic, 221 Main St., St. Joseph; 982-4000

Photo provided / Stephen Salyer

Leslie Sypian returns to The Livery on Monday night to host the New Territory Arts Association open stage. The monthly event offers local talent – singers, dancers, instrumentalists, magicians, comedians – the chance to improve their performance skills and stage presence. Sign-ups begin at 6:30 p.m., with performances to start at 7 p.m.

JAN. 12

Sali Halliday: 2-3 p.m., Forte Coffee, 2045 Niles Road, St. Joseph; 769-0050 or www.forte.coffee

Mike Struwin: 2:30-5:30 p.m., Dablon Vineyards, 111 W. Shawnee Road, Baroda; free; 422-2846 or www.dablon.com

Andrews Sunday Music Series presents Wind Quintet: 4 p.m., Andrews University's Howard Performing Arts Center, 4160 E. Campus Circle Drive, Berrien Springs; free; 471-3560 or howard.andrews.edu

Foundry Hall presents Jim Cooper: 4-6 p.m., Harbor Light Brewery, 516 Phoenix St., South Haven; free; 299-7760 or www.harborlightbrewing.com

JAN. 14

International Musical Ambassador Concert with Jeff Whittaker: 3:30-4:30 p.m., The Whitcomb, 509 Ship St., St. Joseph; 983-2513 or www.whitcombretirement.com

JAN. 16

Dave Hiltebrand: 7 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

Open mic with Dave Van Dyke: 7 p.m., Iron Shoe Distillery, 3 N. Third St., Niles; 262-0454 or www.ironshoedistillery.com

JAN. 17

15th annual Hunter Ice Festival: downtown Niles; free; 687-4332 or www.huntericefestival.org

Kody Bryant: 8-10 p.m., Iron Shoe Distillery, 3 N. Third St., Niles; 262-0454 or www.ironshoedistillery.com

Kaitlin Rose Band: 8:30 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; $10 suggested admission; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

PS Dump Your Boyfriend: 10 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

Zero: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Jellie Bean: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

JAN. 18

Book signing with "When Life Gets Shaky" author Dale Hansen: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Parable Christian Store, 2913 Niles Ave., St. Joseph; 983-7883 or www.stjoseph.parable.com

Marrakesh Express (Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young tribute): 8 p.m., The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks; $30; 756-3879 or www.acornlive.org

America: 9 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Silver Creek Event Center, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; sold out; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

Size Matters: 10 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

Hello Weekend: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Mad Jaz: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

15th annual Hunter Ice Festival: see Jan. 17

JAN. 19

Artist reception for acrylic painting by Laura Hanlin, Buchanan Art Center instructor showcase and woodcarving by John VanDyke: 2-4 p.m., Buchanan Art Center, 117 W. Front St., Buchanan; free; 697-4005 or buchananartcenter.com

Matt Gabriel: 2:30-5:30 p.m., Dablon Vineyards, 111 W. Shawnee Road, Baroda; free; 422-2846 or www.dablon.com

15th annual Hunter Ice Festival: see Jan. 17

JAN. 20

Brian Allison: 7 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

JAN. 23

Robbie Gold Duo: 6 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

JAN. 24

8th annual Chili Tour: 5-8 p.m., downtown St. Joseph; $2; 985-1111 or www.stjoetoday.com

SMSO presents Dueling Pianos: 7 p.m., Vineland Center, 1155 Vineland Road, St. Joseph; $30-$50; 982-4030 or www.smso.org

Imphormal: 8 p.m., Iron Shoe Distillery, 3 N. Third St., Niles; 262-0454 or www.ironshoedistillery.com

"ABBA Mania": 8 p.m., Lake Michigan College Mendel Center Mainstage Theatre, 2755 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor; $27-$57; 927-8700 or www.themendelcenter.com

Chirp: 8:30 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; $10 suggested admission; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

The Crawpuppies: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Wayne: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

JAN. 25

Wedding World: 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Lake Michigan College Mendel Center, 2755 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor; 927-8700 or www.themendelcenter.com

5th annual St. Joe Winter Beer Fest: noon-4 p.m., Broad Street and Lake Boulevard, St. Joseph, $35; 985-1111 or www.stjoetoday.com

Carhartt Party with Dave and Connie D.: 3-7 p.m., McIntosh Cellars, 6431 107th Ave., South Haven; 637-7922 or www.mcintosh orchards.com

School of American Music presents Kunito Nishitani and Rudolf Haken: 7 p.m., Converge Community Church, 601 W. Buffalo St., New Buffalo; 409-1191 or www.schoolofamerican music.com

Andrews University Young Artist Competition with Symphony Orchestra: 8 p.m., Andrews University's Howard Performing Arts Center, 4160 E. Campus Circle Drive, Berrien Springs; 471-3560 or howard.andrews.edu

Open Mic Night: 8 p.m., The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Drive, Three Oaks; free, donations encouraged; 756-3879 or www.acornlive.org

Emery Plews Band: 8:30 p.m., The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; $10 suggested cover; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

The 1985 Band: 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Front Street Pizza Pub, 510 N. Front St., Niles; 687-4992 or www.frontstreetpizzapub.com

Whiskey Highway: 10 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

Twice the Action: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Dubbington: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

JAN. 26

Lucky Bride: noon-4 p.m. Four Winds Casino Resort, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; $7.50-$50; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

Dale Wicks: 2:30-5:30 p.m., Dablon Vineyards, 111 W. Shawnee Road, Baroda; free; 422-2846 or www.dablon.com

JAN. 30

Mendel Center Living Room Series presents Molly: 7 p.m., Lake Michigan College Mendel Center Mainstage Theatre, 2755 E. Napier Ave., Benton Harbor; $13-$18; 927-8700 or www.themendelcenter.com

JAN. 31

27th annual Ice Breaker Festival: downtown South Haven; free; 637-5171 or www.southhavenmi.com

16th annual Magical Ice Fest: 5:30 p.m.-midnight, downtown St. Joseph; 985-1111 or www.stjoetoday.com

Opening reception for "Lines with Power and Purpose: Editorial Cartoons": 6-8 p.m., Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph; free; 983-0271 or www.krasl.org

Lynn and the Moonshine Runners: 7-10 p.m., Harbor Light Brewery, 516 Phoenix St., South Haven; 299-7760 or www.harborlightbrewing.com

Twin City Players presents "The Savannah Sipping Society": 7:30 p.m., TCP Playhouse, 600 W. Glenlord Road, St. Joseph; $12-$15; 429-0400 or www.twincityplayers.org

Don Savoie: 7:30-10 p.m., Iron Shoe Distillery, 3 N. Third St., Niles; 262-0454 or www.ironshoedistillery.com

Great White and Slaughter: 9 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Silver Creek Event Center, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; $49 and up; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

Bob Marley Birthday Bash with Indika: 10 p.m., Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; $5; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

Libido Funk Circus: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's Hard Rock Cafe, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DJ Kenya: 10 p.m., Four Winds Casino Resort's C Bar, 11111 Wilson Road, New Buffalo; 866-494-6371 or www.fourwindscasino.com

DC-90: 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Black River Tavern, 403 Phoenix St., South Haven; 637-4837 or www.blackrivertavern.com

ART EXHIBITS

"Dear Santa": through Sunday, History Center at Courthouse Square, 313 N. Cass St., Berrien Springs; free; 471-1202 or www.berrienhistory.org

"2019 Members Show: Inspired by the Greats": through Jan. 18, Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph; free; 983-3688 or boxfactoryforthearts.org

"2019 Members' Show: Resiliency": through Jan. 20, Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph; free; 983-0271 or www.krasl.org

"Annual Photography Competition": through Jan. 21, Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve's Clark Art Gallery, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles; free with regular admission ($10, $7 seniors and students with ID, $5 military and ages 5-17; free members and ages 4 and younger); 695-6491 or www.fernwoodbotanical.org

Archive exhibit of event posters from 2010-19: Monday-Jan. 30, Southwestern Michigan College's Gallery, Dale A. Lyons Building, 58900 Cherry Grove Road, Dowagiac; free; 782-1457 or www.swmich.edu

"Palimpsest" by Scott Elliott: through Feb. 11; ARS Gallery/Arts & Culture Center, 147 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; free; 277-5090 or arsarts andculture.org

Acrylic painting by Laura Hanlin, BAC instructor showcase and woodcarving by John VanDyke: Wednesday-Feb. 23, Buchanan Art Center, 117 W. Front St., Buchanan; free; 697-4005 or buchananartcenter.com

WEEKLY EVENTS

Karaoke: 7 p.m. Thursdays, 9:30 p.m. Fridays; Babe's Lounge, 565 Riverview Drive, Benton Harbor; free; 925-3787

Team trivia: 7 p.m. Thursdays; Sister Lakes Brewing Company, 92500 CR 690, Dowagiac; free; 332-5135 or www.sisterlakesbrewing.com

Music match trivia: 7 p.m. Thursdays; The Buck Burgers & Brew, 412 State St., St. Joseph; 281-0320 or eatatthebuck.com

Karaoke: 9 p.m. Thursdays; Czar's 505, 505 Pleasant St., St. Joseph; 983-1166 or www.czars.com

DJ karaoke: 9 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays; Arrowhead Bar & Grill, 20 W. Main St., Hartford; free; 621-4100

Karaoke: 9 p.m. Saturdays; AJ's Uptown Bar and Grill, 102 E. Ferry St., Berrien Springs; 473-1579

Karaoke: 10 p.m. Saturdays, Wednesdays; The Sandbar & Grille, 2701 Lakeshore Drive, St. Joseph; free; 983-9977

Team trivia: 7 p.m. Mondays; The Buck Burgers & Brew, 412 State St., St. Joseph; 281-0320 or eatatthebuck.com

Open mic: 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Uptown Pizza Co., 100 E. Ferry St., Berrien Springs; 473-6007 or www.uptownpizzacompany.com

Open mic: 7 p.m. Tuesdays; St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Elks Lodge 541, 601 Riverview Drive, Benton Harbor; free; 363-4180

Open mic: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays; The Buck Burgers & Brew, 412 State St., St. Joseph; 281-0320 or eatatthebuck.com

Rock 'n' Roll Dance Music with DJ Dale Owen: 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays; Hidden Pointe Hall, 1050 Nickerson Ave., Benton Harbor; $5; 926-1358

Team Trivia: 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays; The Livery, 190 Fifth St., Benton Harbor; free; 925-8760 or www.liverybrew.com

FILM

"Dark Waters": 6 p.m. Friday-Monday, 7 p.m. Jan. 9; **"A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood":** 3 p.m. today, Sunday and Jan. 9, 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday; **"Parasite":** 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Vickers Theatre, 6 N. Elm St., Three Oaks; $12, $10 students and seniors, free ages 100 and older; 756-3522 or vickerstheatre.com

The Guide appears Thursdays in Entertainment. Submissions must include day, time, location, cost and contact information. Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday to appear in the following Thursday. We reserve the right to edit for space and style. Email to Focus@TheHP.com, fax to 429-4398 or mail to Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085. For questions, call Andy Steinke at 932-0363.

Helen Sloane / HBO / TNS

Emilia Clarke as Daenerys Targaryen is shown in a scene from HBO's "Game of Thrones."

'Game of Thrones,' 'Frozen' helped define last decade

By HAL BOEDEKER
Orlando Sentinel

Disney / AP

Elsa, voiced by Idina Menzel, sprinkles snowflakes on a salamander named Bruni in a scene from "Frozen 2."

It was the decade of "Game of Thrones," peak drama, political comedy and superhero films. Here are a few works that defined 2010-19:

Big was in, as "GoT" demonstrated repeatedly through its epic 2011-19 run on HBO. The last "GoT" season might have been rushed and wildly uneven, but the fantasy collected the best drama Emmy for a fourth time in the decade.

With its high-flying dragons, threatening White Walkers and ruthless royal schemers, the series elevated TV production values and took storytelling in provocative directions. The show's sheer size dwarfed criticisms of it, and the series was more riveting than most big-screen fantasies.

The decade's other acclaimed TV dramas were far smaller yet also fueled by intrigue. Bryan Cranston gave a landmark performance as drug kingpin Walter White in AMC's "Breaking Bad," which remained riveting to the end.

Showtime's "Homeland" started explosively with a twisty story of treason that still resonates in the culture. Claire Danes and Damian Lewis were exceptional. The final season begins Feb. 9.

AMC's "The Walking Dead" was a phenomenon before tiresome villains sent many fans fleeing from the zombie drama. It was involving for so long, and the fall-off was a cautionary tale to producers.

Broadcasting's best was "The Good Wife," a CBS legal drama that offered a determined heroine (Julianna Margulies), topical writing and brilliant acting. The approach lives on, gloriously, in the spinoff "The Good Fight," a CBS All Access drama with Christine Baranski headlining timely scripts.

Comedy Central's "The Daily Show With Jon Stewart" was the decade's most influential political comedy, its lacerating approach carried on by CBS' Stephen Colbert, HBO's John Oliver and Trevor Noah, Stewart's successor.

HBO's "Veep" satirized Washington through a classic character played by Julia Louis-Dreyfus in top form. Yet her Selina Meyer had trouble keeping up with President Donald Trump.

"Modern Family" freshened the comedy genre with recognizable characters, fine actors and an understanding style. The ABC series won the best comedy Emmy five times in a row.

Amazon Prime's "Fleabag," buoyed by to Phoebe Waller-Bridge's frank style, collected the last comedy Emmy of the decade.

The enduring popularity of CBS' "The Big Bang Theory" proved that fan support means more than prizes. The beloved Sheldon Cooper lives on in "Young Sheldon."

Movies

At the movies, the weekly box-office tallies dominated headlines in a business known for franchises, sequels and superheroes. Yet certain blockbusters surpassed the bottom line to become cultural events.

"Frozen" represented Disney animation at its most magical, and made "Let It Go" a power ballad for the ages. (The so-so sequel "Frozen 2" demonstrated how hard it is to capture magic just once.)

"Black Panther" supplied a superhero breakthrough for its diversity and passion.

But generally, the decade's most notable films were smaller and more personal. Here are a few titles that could be this decade's answer to "Casablanca" or "All About Eve."

"The Social Network" provided sharp insights into Mark Zuckerberg and Facebook history. "Silver Linings Playbook" reaffirmed, through Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence, the importance of stars.

Jordan Peele jolted the horror genre with "Get Out," and Greta Gerwig charmed with "Lady Bird," a tender coming-of-age story with Saoirse Ronan.

The Oscar for best picture went to "12 Years a Slave" and "Moonlight," vivid works told in wrenching ways. "Parasite" from South Korea was the decade's most memorable foreign-language film and possibly a best-picture contender.

Martin Scorsese closed out the decade with "The Irishman," one of his finest works, and another sign of Netflix's dominance in streaming.

The way that films and TV series are shown may change, but first-rate storytelling cannot be replaced. On that score, the decade offered reasons to hope.

Universal faces at least $70M loss from 'Cats'

By ANOUSHA SAKOUI
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Comcast Corp.'s Universal Pictures is bracing to lose at least $70 million after its critically panned movie "Cats" bombed over the holidays, according to a person close to the project.

"Cats" has drawn just $38.3 million globally so far – including $17.8 million in the U.S. and Canada, according to Box Office Mojo – a disaster for a big holiday movie based on the Andrew Lloyd Webber hit musical.

The studio expects domestic box office sales to reach at least $30 million, after production costs of about $100 million and close to the same amount in marketing costs, according to estimates from those close to the project who were not authorized to comment.

Such losses are a painful reminder of the risky film business and further evidence of the challenges studios face drawing in audiences to theaters, even for features with such stars as Taylor Swift, Jennifer Hudson and Idris Elba.

Even though this year has set new records for individual movies, it has also delivered other flops, including STX Entertainment's "Playmobil: The Movie" and Warner Bros. "The Goldfinch."

However, unlike other misfires from 2019 such as Fox's X-men saga "Dark Phoenix" or Paramount's "Terminator: Dark Fate," "Cats" isn't tied to a larger franchise that would be the basis for future sequels and spin-offs.

After "Cats" was released on Dec. 20, executives expressed hope that the movie would eventually reach its target audience during the holidays.

"The story isn't necessarily over on how 'Cats' is going to play domestically," said Jim Orr, president of domestic distribution at Universal Pictures. "This audience group doesn't necessarily rush out on opening weekend."

A loss of $70 million for Universal would not rank among Hollywood's biggest write-offs, which include a $200 million hit taken by Disney in 2012 for the movie "John Carter."

WEEKEND

From page D1

Jack Adams will bring his "Take Down Tour" to Sister Lakes Brewing Company, 92500 CR 690, at 8 p.m. Saturday.

Adams was inspired by the song "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall" as well as the fact that he just turned 21.

On the tour, which he kicked off in September at The Livery in Benton Harbor, he's traveled all around Michigan, to Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois and even Canada, visiting 100 breweries in 100 days.

He's calling his final stop "The Last Bottle," and it will include a screening of his music video for "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall," which he's been filming at each stop along the tour.

Adams said the tour has been nothing short of an adventure.

"It's been driving, playing and drinking. Not all at the same time," he said. "It's been so much fun meeting all these new people and making all these new connections. Playing all the music has been so much fun. It's been great perfecting the songs that I do and keep my set lists rotating."

As for what's next, Adams said he's going to rest for "at least three days," then get back to playing music on the weekends and taking some college classes. He also wants to record a new album and set up another tour like this one.

For more information about his final shows, including tonight in Grand Rapids and Friday in Saugatuck, find St. Joe Jack on Facebook, or visit www.stjoejack.com.

NOW PLAYING

Movies in theaters this week.

NEW RELEASES

"The Grudge": A house is cursed by a vengeful ghost that dooms those who enter it with a violent death. Stars Tara Westwood, Junko Bailey, David Lawrence Brown, Zoe Fish and Andrea Riseborough. Rated R for disturbing violence and bloody images, terror and some language. Runtime: 93 minutes.

STILL SHOWING

"A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood": Based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. Stars Tom Hanks, Matthew Rhys, Chris Cooper, Susan Kelechi Watson and Maryann Plunkett. Rated PG for some strong thematic material, a brief fight and some mild language. Runtime: 108 minutes.

"Bombshell": A group of women decide to take on Fox News head Roger Ailes and the toxic atmosphere he presided over at the network. Stars Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman, Margot Robbie, John Lithgow and Allison Janney. Rated R for sexual material and language throughout. Runtime: 108 minutes.

"Cats": A tribe of cats called the Jellicles must decide yearly which one will ascend to the Heaviside Layer and come back to a new Jellicle life. Stars Judi Dench, Ian McKellen, Idris Elba, Taylor Swift and Jennifer Hudson. Rated PG for some rude and suggestive humor. Runtime: 102 minutes.

"Frozen 2": Anna, Elsa, Kristoff, Olaf and Sven leave Arendelle to travel to an ancient, autumn-bound forest of an enchanted land. They set out to find the origin of Elsa's powers to save their kingdom. Stars Kristen Bell, Jonathan Groff, Idina Menzel, Evan Rachel Wood and Josh Gad. Rated PG for action, peril and some thematic elements. Runtime: 103 minutes.

"Jumanji: The Next Level": The gang is back, but the game has changed. As they return to rescue one of their own, the players will have to brave parts unknown – from arid deserts to snowy mountains – to escape the world's most dangerous game. Stars Karen Gillan, Dwayne Johnson, Jack Black, Nick Jonas and Kevin Hart. Rated PG-13 for adventure action, suggestive content and some language. Runtime: 123 minutes.

"Knives Out": A detective investigates the death of a patriarch of an eccentric, combative family. Stars Daniel Craig, Chris Evans, Ana de Armas, Jamie Lee Curtis and Michael Shannon. Rated PG-13 for thematic elements including brief violence, some strong language, sexual references and drug material. Runtime: 130 minutes.

"Little Women": Four sisters come of age in America in the aftermath of the Civil War. Stars Saoirse Ronan, Emma Watson, Timothée Chalamet, Florence Pugh and Eliza Scanlen. Rated PG for thematic elements and brief smoking. Runtime: 134 minutes.

"Richard Jewell": American security guard Richard Jewell saves thousands of lives from an exploding bomb at the 1996 Olympics, but is vilified by journalists who falsely report he was a terrorist. Stars Olivia Wilde, Sam Rockwell, Paul Walter Hauser, Jon Hamm and Kathy Bates. Rated R for language, including some sexual references, and brief bloody images. Runtime: 129 minutes.

"Spies in Disguise": When the world's best spy is turned into a pigeon, he must rely on his nerdy tech officer to save the world. Stars Karen Gillan, Rachel Brosnahan, Tom Holland, Will Smith and Rashida Jones. Rated PG for action, violence and rude humor. Runtime: 101 minutes.

"Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker": The surviving Resistance faces the First Order once more in the final chapter of the Skywalker saga. Stars Adam Driver, Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Oscar Isaac and Mark Hamill. Rated PG-13 for sci-fi violence and action. Runtime: 141 minutes.

"Uncut Gems": A charismatic New York City jeweler always on the lookout for the next big score, makes a series of high-stakes bets that could lead to the windfall of a lifetime. Stars Adam Sandler, Julia Fox, Kevin Garnett, The Weeknd and Idina Menzel. Rated R for pervasive strong language, violence, some sexual content and brief drug use. Runtime: 135 minutes.